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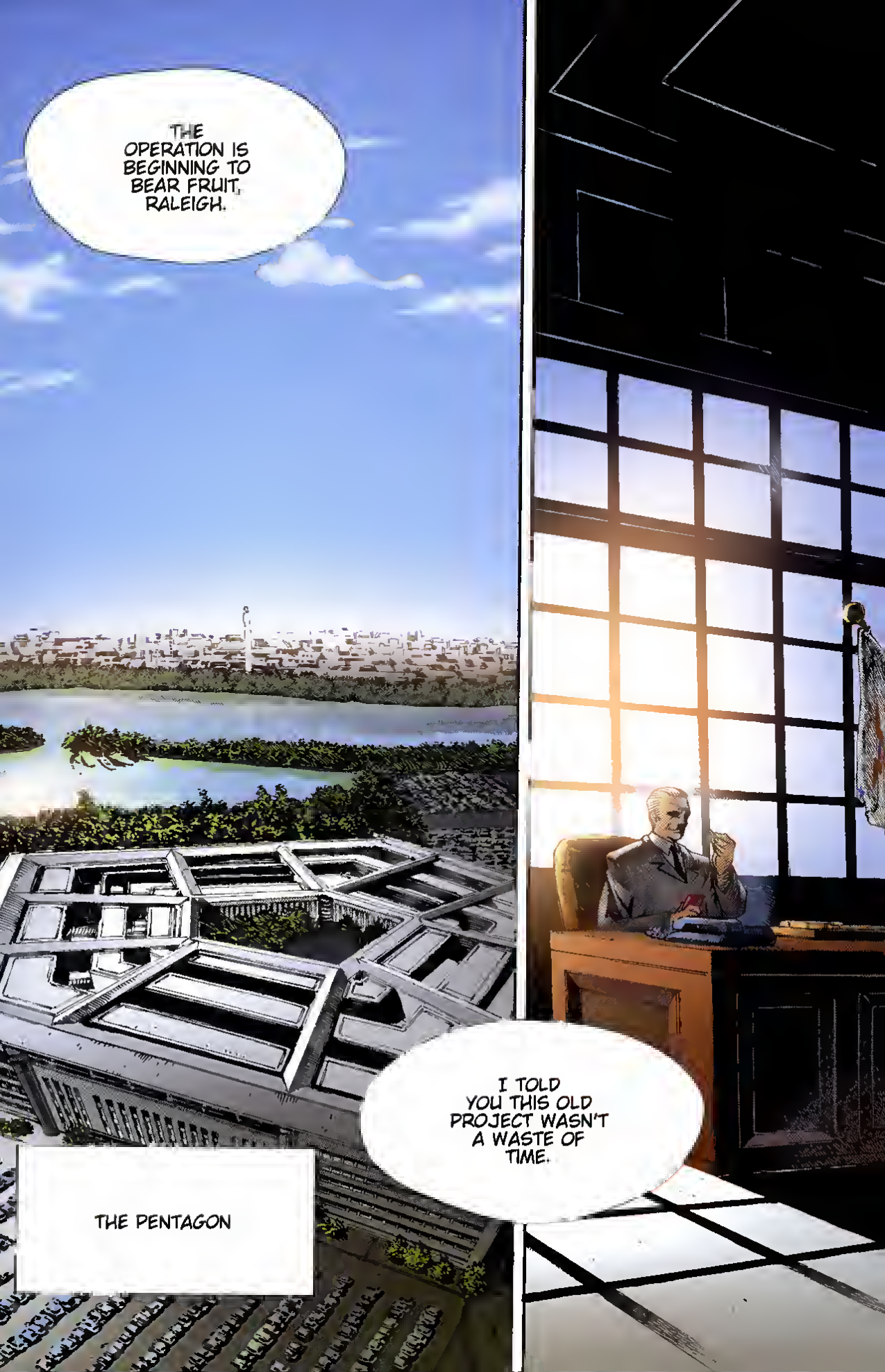
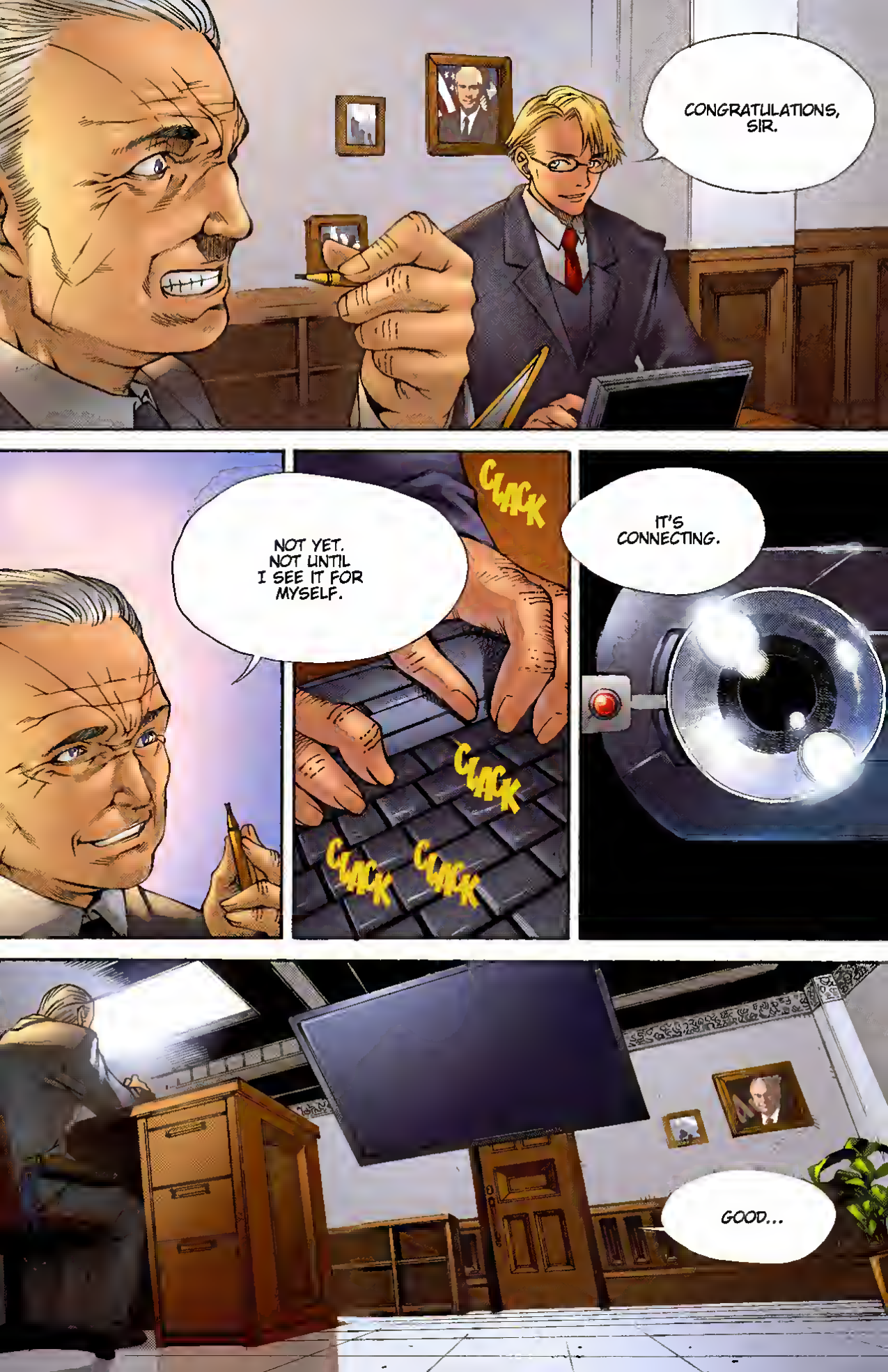
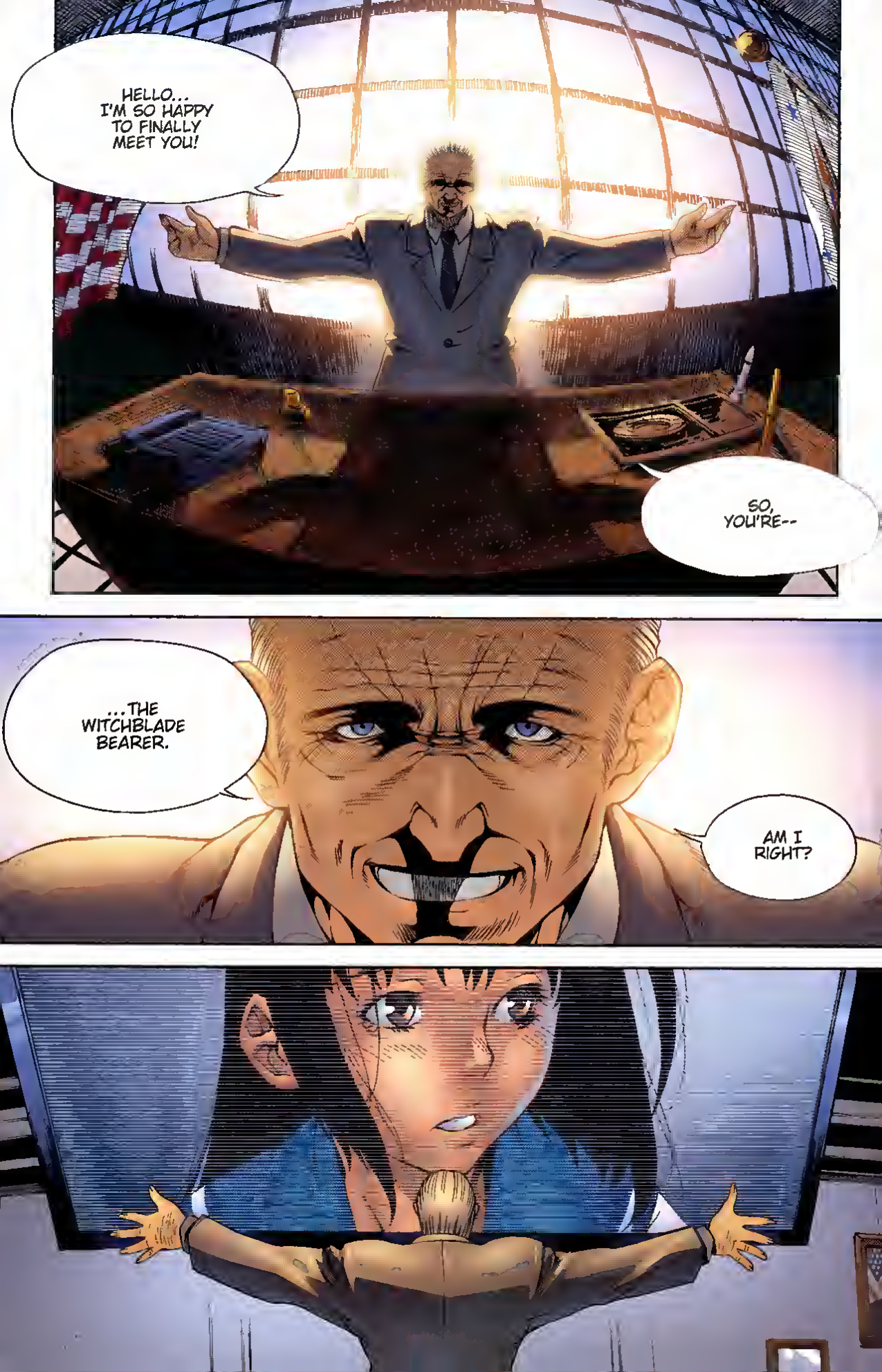
# WITCHBLADE™

TAKERU MANGA

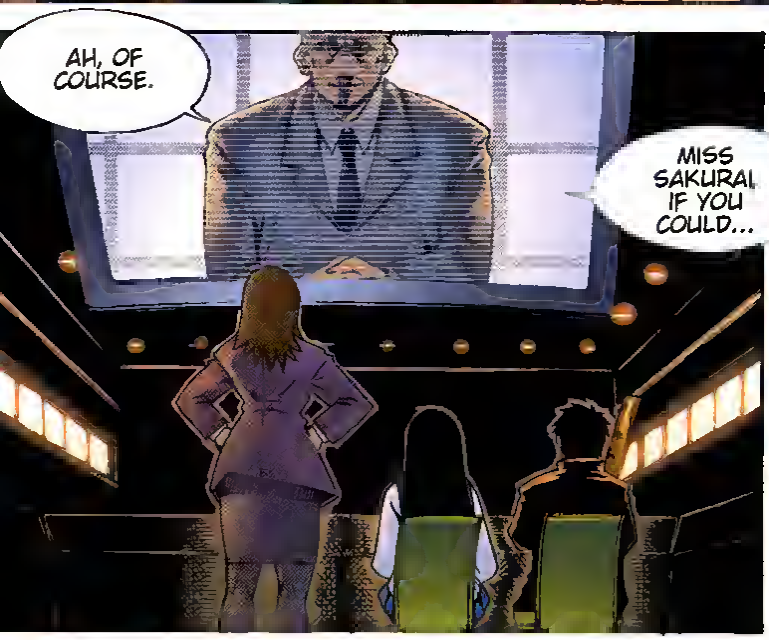
Chapter Six Truth Revealed


THE OPERATION IS BEGINNING TO BEAR FRUIT, RALEIGH.
I TOLD YOU THIS OLD PROJECT WASN'T A WASTE OF TIME.
THE PENTAGON

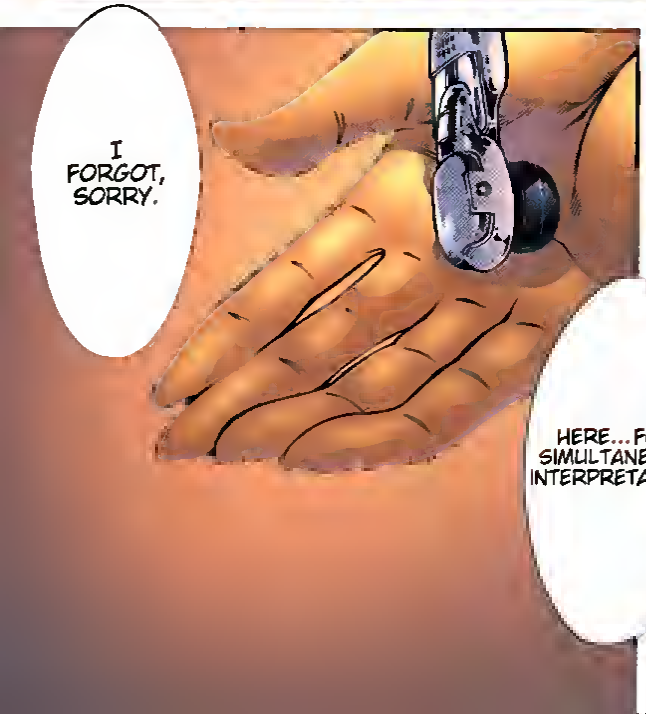

CONGRATULATIONS, SIR.
NOT YET. NOT UNTIL I SEE IT FOR MYSELF.
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
IT'S CONNECTING.
GOOD...

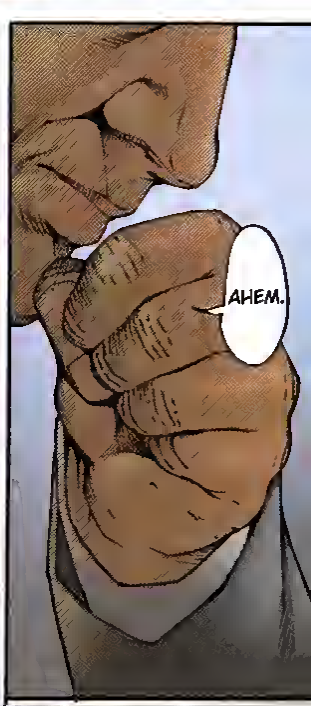

HELLO... I'M SO HAPPY TO FINALLY MEET YOU!
SO, YOU'RE--
...THE WITCHBLADE BEARER.
AM I RIGHT?

LIBRARIAN
SAKURAI


AH, OF COURSE.
MISS SAKURAI, IF YOU COULD...

?
!


I FORGOT, SORRY.
HERE... FOR SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION.

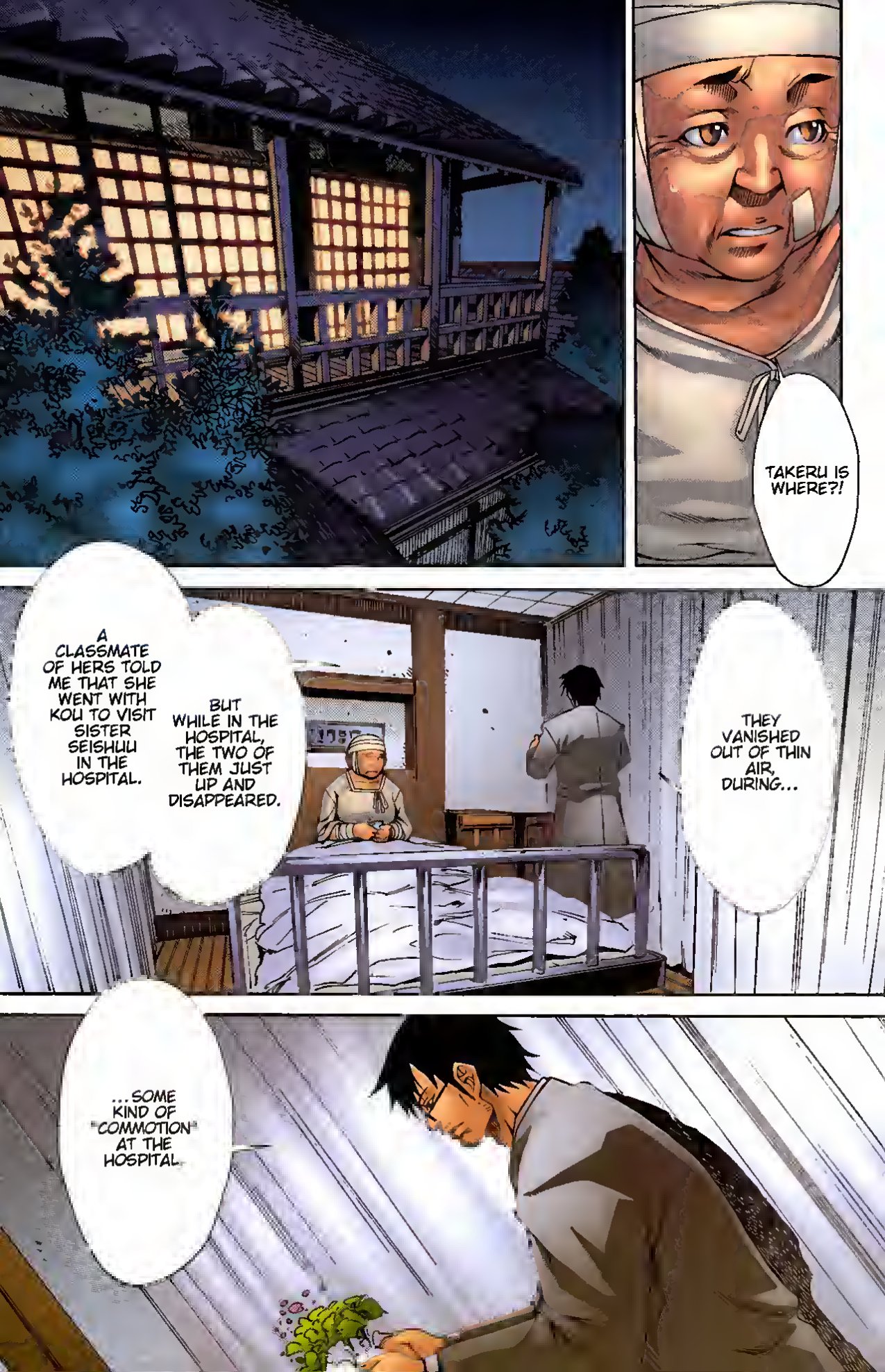

AHEM.

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?
I'M ERIC MASON, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

DEFENSE?!
THAT... UHM... SOUNDS IMPORTANT.
OF COURSE IT IS!
HA, HA, HA, HA...
I ONLY RUN THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, AND MARINES FOR THE GREATEST MILITARY FORCE ON THE PLANET.
WHILE I LOOK AT MEMOS FROM MOMMY, OF COURSE. HA, HA, HA, HA...
WHAT EVER.

WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR A LONG TIME.
FOR THE WITCHBLADE, OF COURSE.
AND THE HUMAN CAPABLE OF BEARING IT.
YOU ARE IN ELITE COMPANY, TAKERU.
RARIFIED AIR, INDEED. THERE ARE FEW WHO HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIELD THE MIGHTY WITCHBLADE.

OVER THE YEARS WE GREW IMPATIENT, AND TRIED TO CREATE ONE OF OUR OWN.
BUT WHAT WE ENDED UP WITH...
...WERE DEMONS.
?!
NO... POOR CHOICE OF WORDS.
IN TRUTH, WE ONLY "RESURRECTED" THEM.
WHATEVER MY CHOICE OF WORDS, THE RESULT IS THE SAME. DEMONS.


TAKERU IS WHERE?!
A CLASSMATE OF HERS TOLD ME THAT SHE WENT WITH KOU TO VISIT SISTER SEISHUU IN THE HOSPITAL.
BUT WHILE IN THE HOSPITAL, THE TWO OF THEM JUST UP AND DISAPPEARED.
THEY VANISHED OUT OF THIN AIR, DURING...
...SOME KIND OF "COMMOTION" AT THE HOSPITAL.

IT WAS DEMONS AGAIN!
THE DEMONS TOOK THEM!
WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING YET...
DOCTOR...
DO YOU REMEMBER TWENTY YEARS AGO...
WHEN THE DEMON MOUND STONE WAS TOPPLED?
RIGHT... I REMEMBER LIKE IT WAS YESTERDAY.
WAIT! DO YOU THINK THAT WAS AN OMEN?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU RESURRECTED...
DEMONS.
UNFORTUNATELY, YOU SEE, THERE IS A LEGEND...
...OF A DEMON'S HAND THAT EXISTED IN A CERTAIN MOUNTAIN VILLAGE IN JAPAN...
WHEN OUR RESEARCH DIVISION DISCOVERED THAT THE DEMONS DID IN FACT EXIST, WE PUT A COVERT TEAM TOGETHER...
AND WE SENT THEM TO INVESTIGATE.

AND...
THEY UNEARTHED THE DEMONS AND EXTRACTED THEIR DNA.
AFTER MUCH TESTING AND RESEARCH...
OUR SCIENCE TEAM WAS ABLE TO RESURRECT THE EXTINCT DEMONS.
YET WE ALSO STUMBLED UPON SOMETHING OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE.
THAT THERE WAS A WITCHBLADE BEARER AMONG THE DEMONS.
HOWEVER...

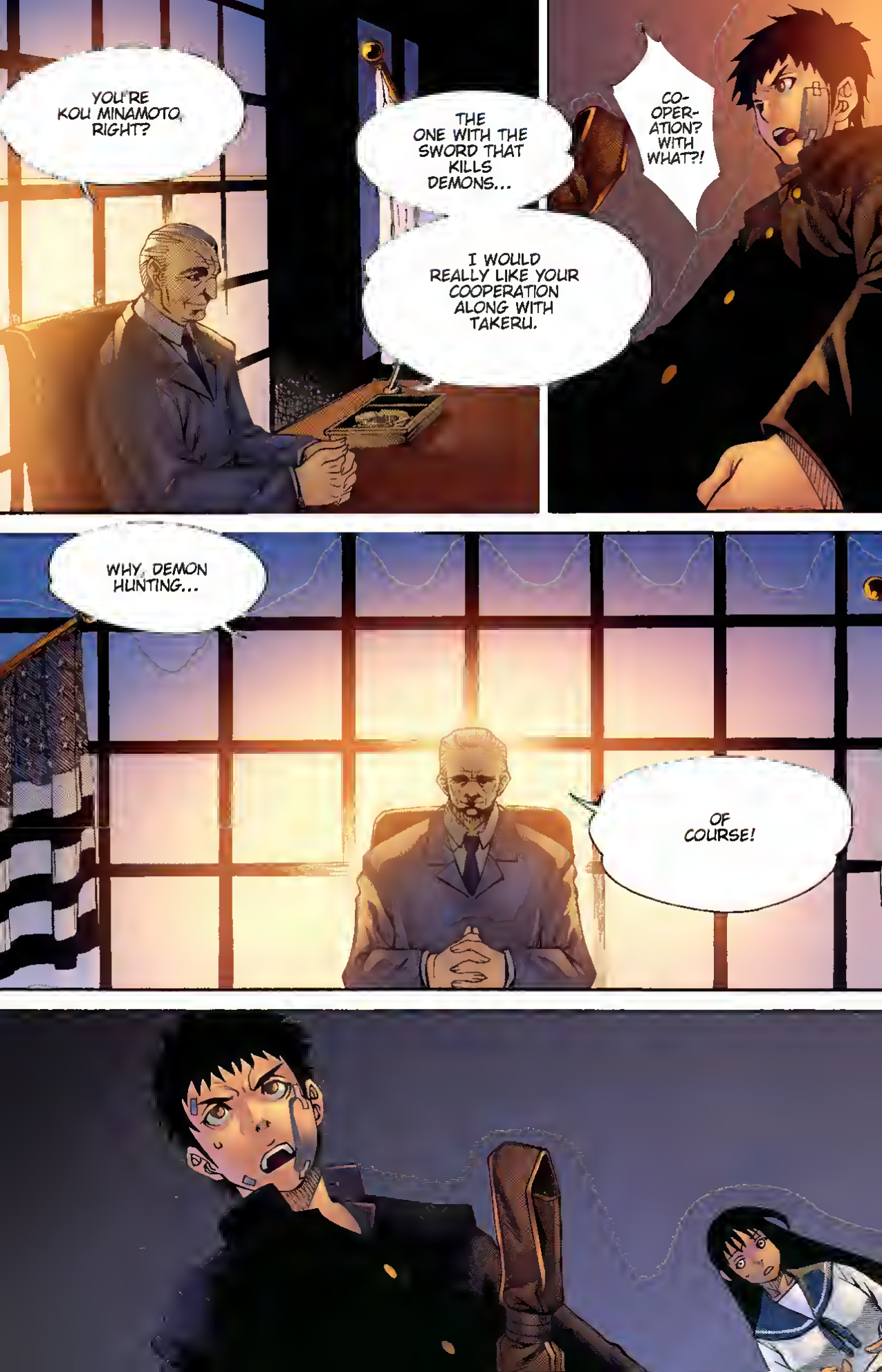
WE PAID THE PRICE FOR OUR RESEARCH. THE SHEER BRUTALITY OF THE DEMONS WAS BEYOND ANYTHING WE COULD HAVE IMAGINED.
THEY DESTROYED OUR RESEARCH FACILITY, AND SAVAGELY KILLED MY MEN. AND WHEN THEIR BLITCHERY WAS FINISHED... THEY VANISHED.

A GHASTLY TRAGEDY.
THERE WERE NO SURVIVORS.
SO WE SHELVED THE PROJECT, WITH NO INTENTION OF EVER REOPENING THAT PANDORA'S BOX.
NATURALLY, WE CLASSIFIED EVERYTHING...
HIDING ALL EVIDENCE OF THE EXISTENCE OF DEMONS.
I DOUBT EVEN THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT KNOWS WHAT WE DID.

S-SO THOSE DEMONS TAKERU FOUGHT...
WERE YOU GUYS RE-SPON-SIBLE?
THEY WERE EITHER THE ONES THAT ESCAPED THE FACILITY... OR THEIR DEMON KIN.
WE DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT THEIR NUMBERS ARE GROWING.
!!!
HEY!

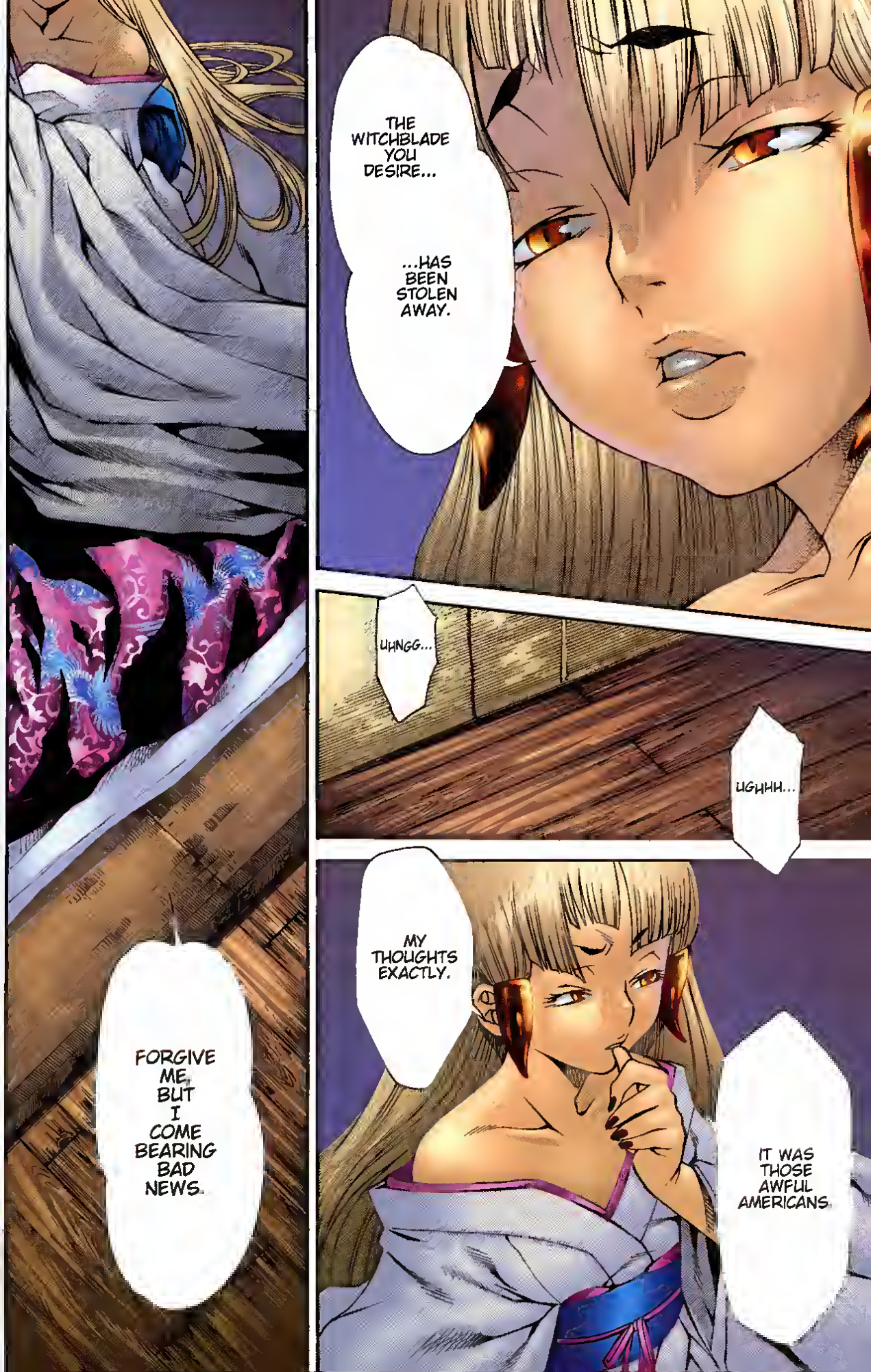
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
THERE WERE NO SURVIVING DEMONS!
WHAT THE...
WHY?!

WHY THE HELL DID YOU BRING BACK THE DEMONS?!
IF NOT FOR YOUR MEDDLING...
TAKERU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO BECOME A BLOOD-THIRSTY...
KOU...

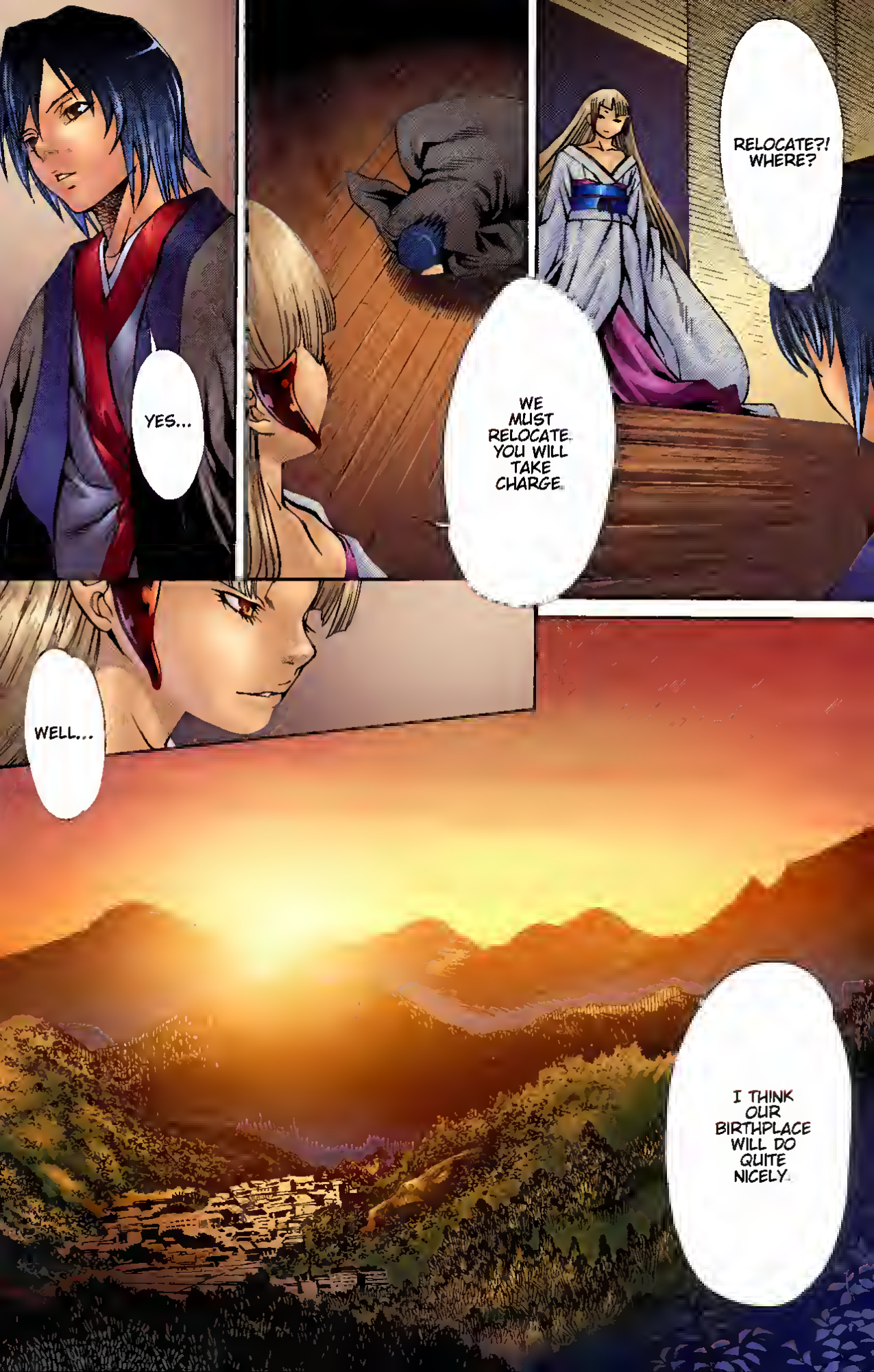

YOU'RE KOU MINAMOTO, RIGHT?
THE ONE WITH THE SWORD THAT KILLS DEMONS...
I WOULD REALLY LIKE YOUR COOPERATION ALONG WITH TAKERU.
CO-OPER-ATION? WITH WHAT?!
WHY, DEMON HUNTING...
OF COURSE!

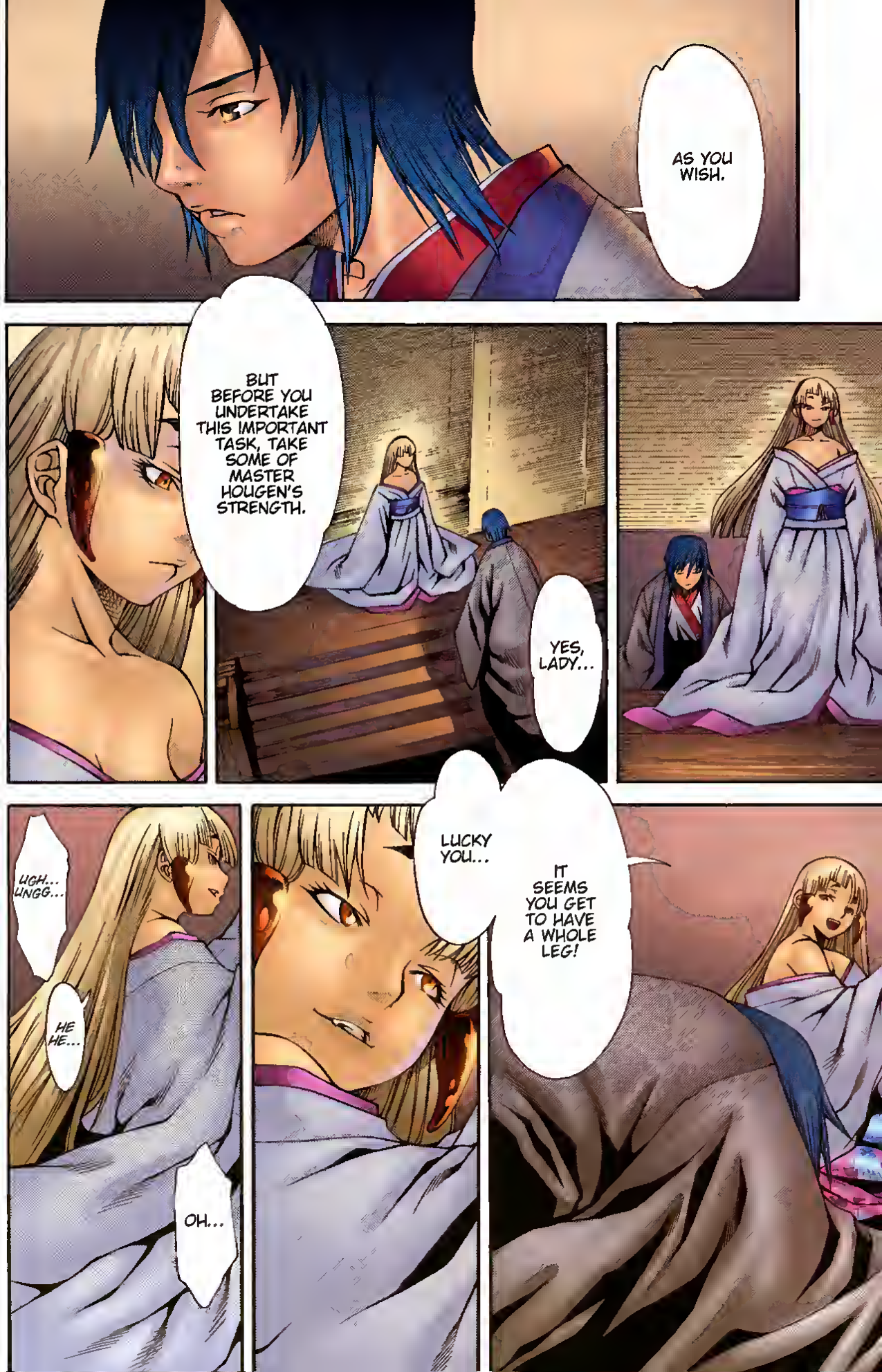
TAKERU...
YOU WILL DO IT, WON'T YOU? YOU HAVE TO.
DON'T YOU SEE...THIS WILL BE REVENGE FOR YOU.
WHAT ?!
YOUR FATHER WAS THE ONE SUPERVISING THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEMONS.
!!
YES, YOUR FATHER.
HE WAS MURDERED BY THE DEMONS.

MASTER HOUGAN...
CAN YOU HEAR ME? IT'S FUURA.

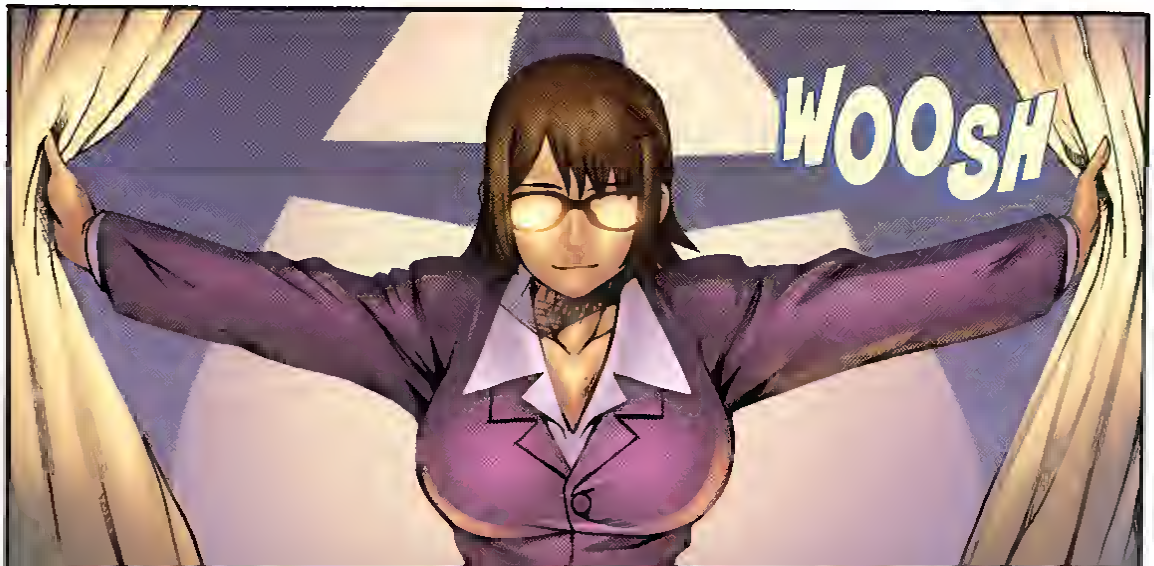

FORGIVE ME, BUT I COME BEARING BAD NEWS.
THE WITCHBLADE YOU DESIRE...
...HAS BEEN STOLEN AWAY.
UHNGG...
UGHHH...
MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY.
IT WAS THOSE AWFUL AMERICANS.

BUT DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD ABOUT IT.
THANKS TO YOU, MASTER HOUGEN...
WE HAVE AN ARMY OF DEMONS.
STILL, THE OUT-COME IS NOT CERTAIN.
WE ARE AT A SLIGHT DISADVANTAGE DEFENSIVELY.
GAKURA.


YES...
WE MUST RELOCATE. YOU WILL TAKE CHARGE.
RELOCATE?! WHERE?
WELL...
I THINK OUR BIRTHPLACE WILL DO QUITE NICELY.


AS YOU WISH.
BUT BEFORE YOU UNDERTAKE THIS IMPORTANT TASK, TAKE SOME OF MASTER HOUGEN'S STRENGTH.
YES, LADY...
UGH... UNGG...
HE HE...
OH...
LUCKY YOU...
IT SEEMS YOU GET TO HAVE A WHOLE LEG!

COME NOW...
RECEIVE YOUR SHARE.
MY LADY, I AM..
MOST GRATEFUL.
GUH... GUH
GUH... UNGH...


WOOSH

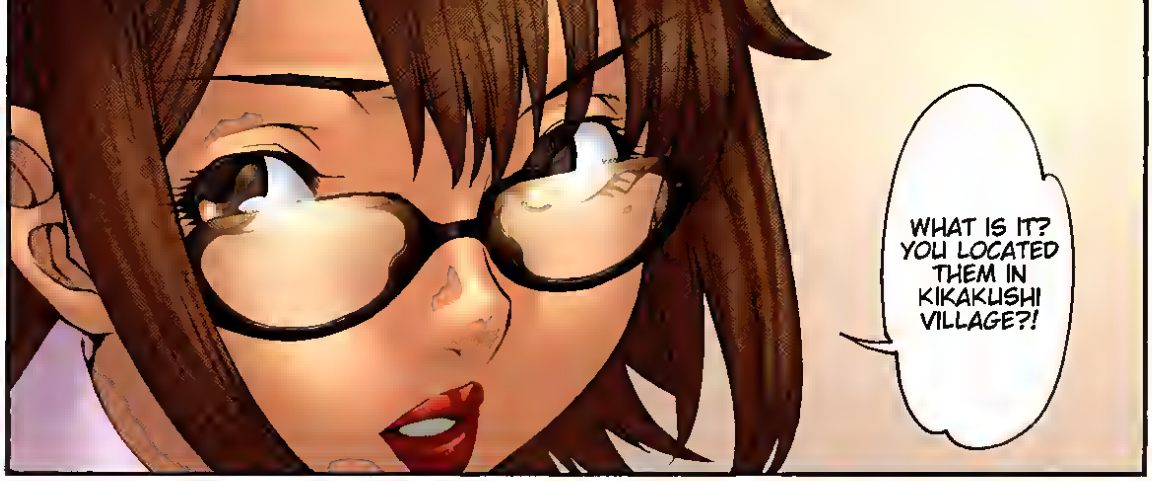
YOU CAN REST IN HERE...
THERE'S ANOTHER BED IN THE NEXT ROOM. WHY DON'T YOU GET SOME SLEEP BEFORE THE MILITARY ESCORT GETS HERE?
THE MILITARY ESCORT?!
BUT WE'RE WITH THE MILITARY NOW, AREN'T WE?
THIS BUILDING BELONGS TO THE NSWF.
THE WHAT?
THE NSWF... IT'S A GLOBAL WELFARE ORGANIZATION.
YOU'VE SEEN THE COMMERCIALS, HAVEN'T YOU?

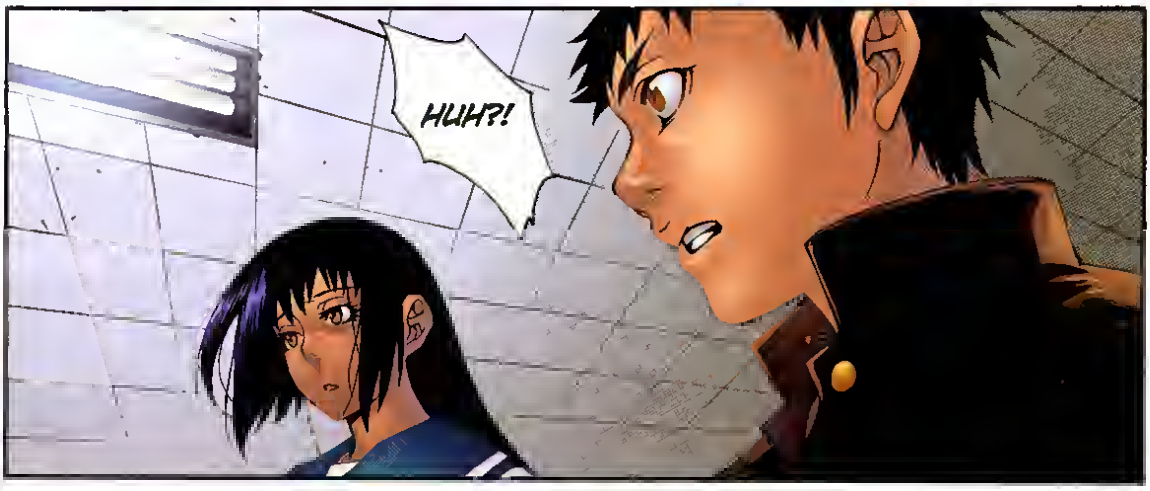
"THE FUTURE OF MAN-KIND".
WE SUPPORT...
OH...
AND I AM THEIR CHIEF RESEARCHER.
IT WAS ALSO THE NSWF THAT ORIGINALLY POSSESSED THE WITCHBLADE.
WHAT?!
IT WAS AN ESSENTIAL PIECE OF RESEARCH MATERIAL AS WE EXPLORED THE LATENT POTENTIAL IN PEOPLE.

OF COURSE, WE HAD NO ONE WHO COULD ACTUALLY BEAR IT.
YOU WERE CHOSEN BY THE WITCHBLADE.
THAT WAS WHEN WE DISCOVERED THE TALE ABOUT THE DEMONS. SO WE DECIDED TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THE MILITARY.
AND HONESTLY, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT KIND OF ABILITIES YOU HAVE. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU!
WELL, YOU SHOULD GET SOME SLEEP.
UH...
UHM...
YES?

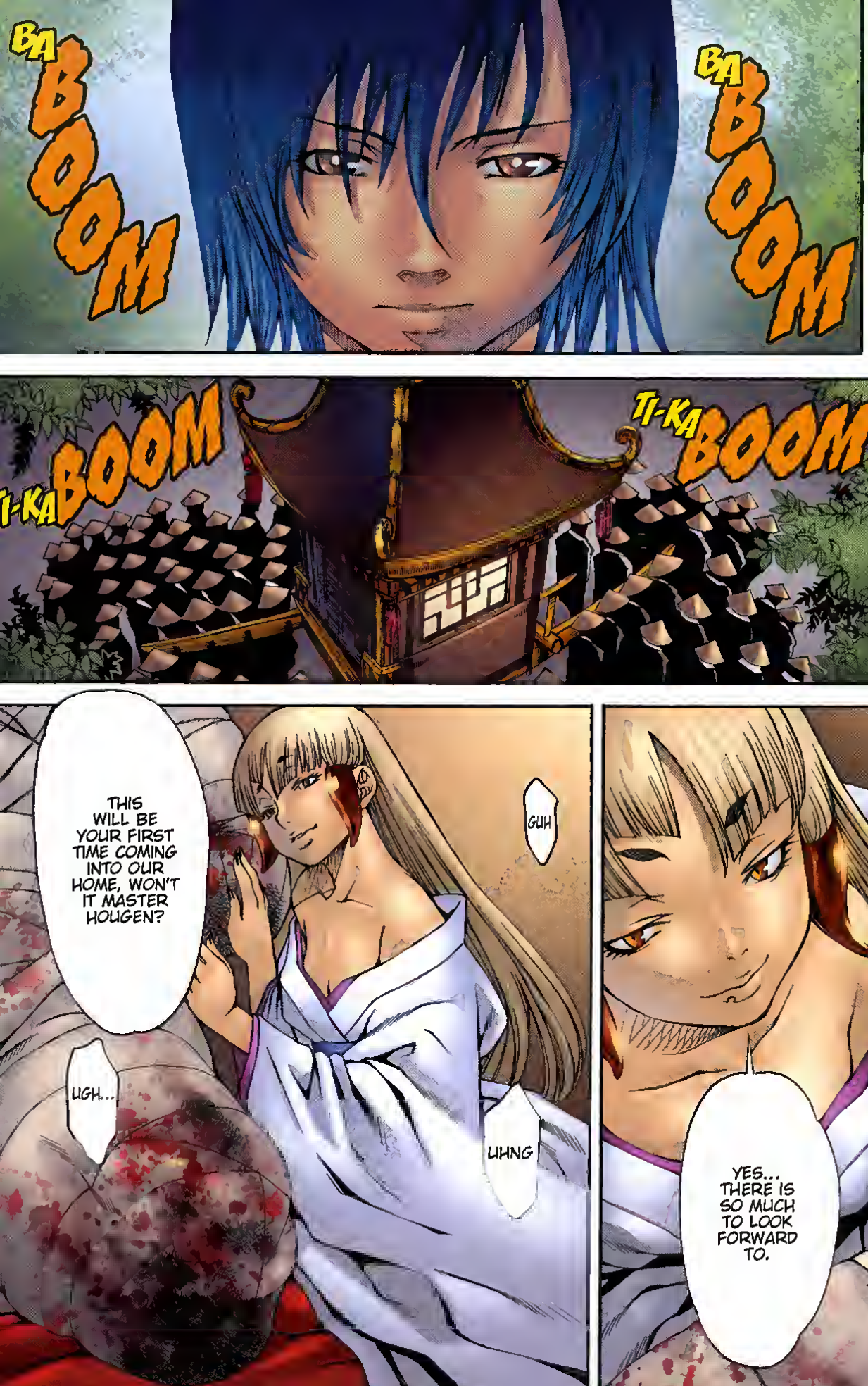
THIS...
CAN'T YOU GET IT OFF OF ME?
WHAT?!
I... I WANT TO GET THIS OFF...
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A DEMON!
SIGH.

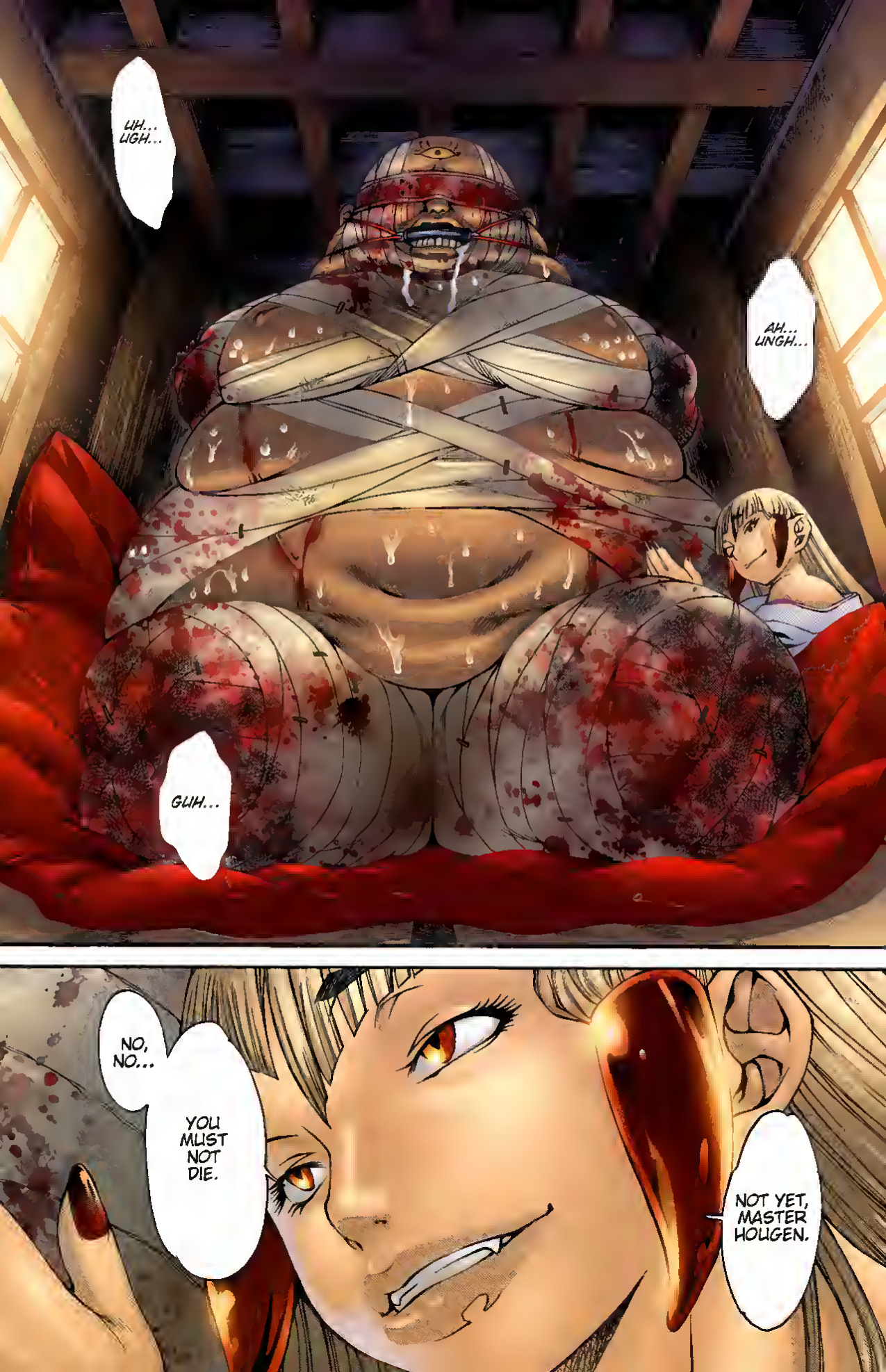
OH, PUH-LEASE! YOU WON'T BECOME A DEMON.
SO A DEMON FROM A LOOOOOONG TIME AGO ONCE WIELDED IT...
THERE'S NO REAL CONNECTION BETWEEN THE WITCHBLADE AND DEMONS.
WHAT?!
HONESTLY... I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANY PAST BEARERS TURNING INTO DEMONS.
?!
IT'S NOT CONNECTED TO THE DEMONS?!
BUT... THAT WAS...
CLICK!
CHIEF SAKURAI.

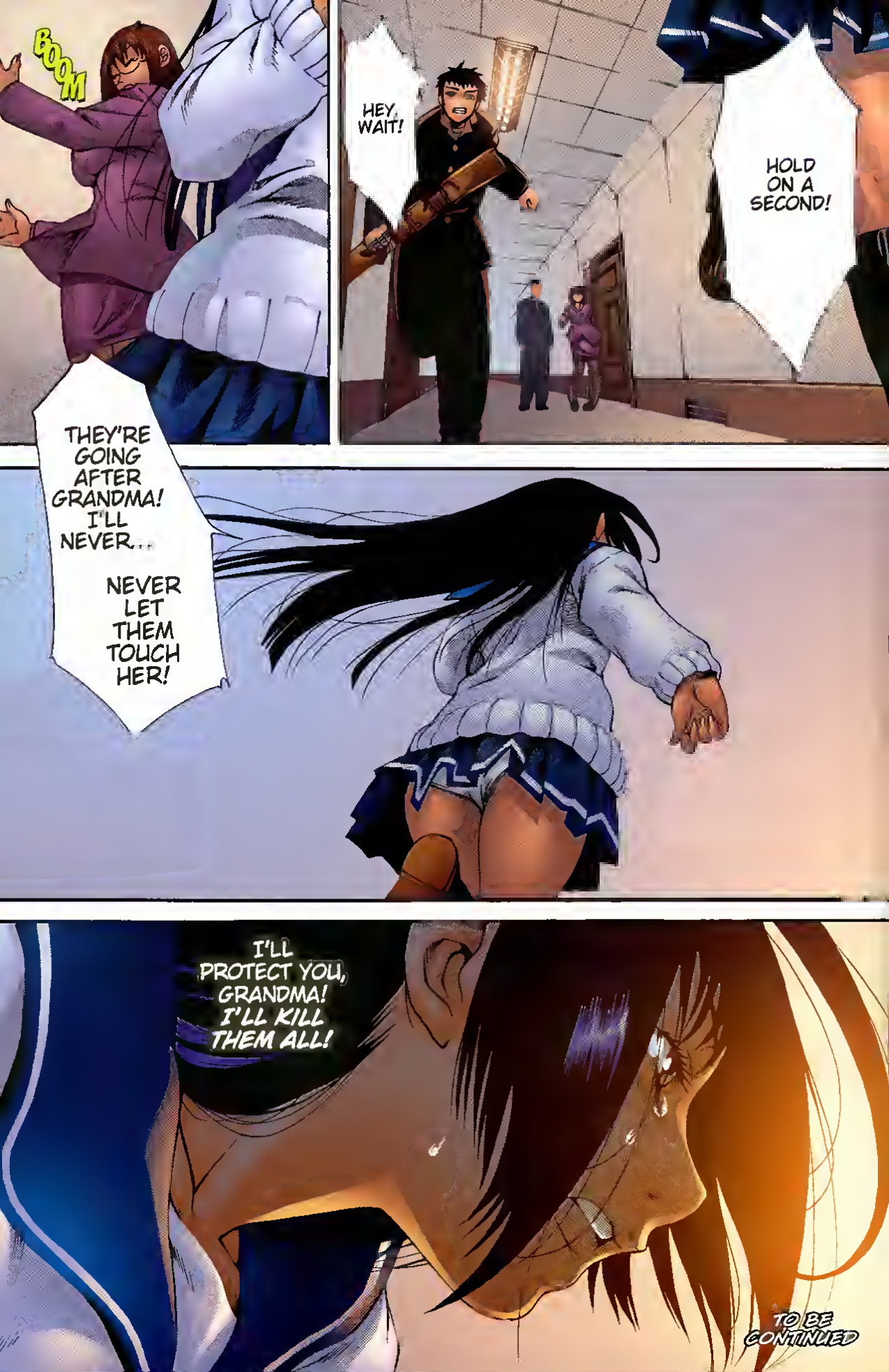

WHAT IS IT? YOU LOCATED THEM IN KIKAKUSHI VILLAGE?!


HUH?!

HMM..
BOOM
BOOM
TI-KA BOOM
TI-KA BOOM
BOOM
BOOM


BA BOOM
BA BOOM
TI-KA BOOM
TI-KA BOOM
THIS WILL BE YOUR FIRST TIME COMING INTO OUR HOME, WON'T IT MASTER HOUGEN?
GUH
UGH...
UHNG
YES... THERE IS SO MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO.


UH... UGH...
AH... UNGH...
GUH...
NO, NO...
YOU MUST NOT DIE.
NOT YET, MASTER HOUGEN.


BOOM
HEY, WAIT!
HOLD ON A SECOND!
THEY'RE GOING AFTER GRANDMA! I'LL NEVER...
NEVER LET THEM TOUCH HER!
I'LL PROTECT YOU, GRANDMA! I'LL KILL THEM ALL!
TO BE CONTINUED

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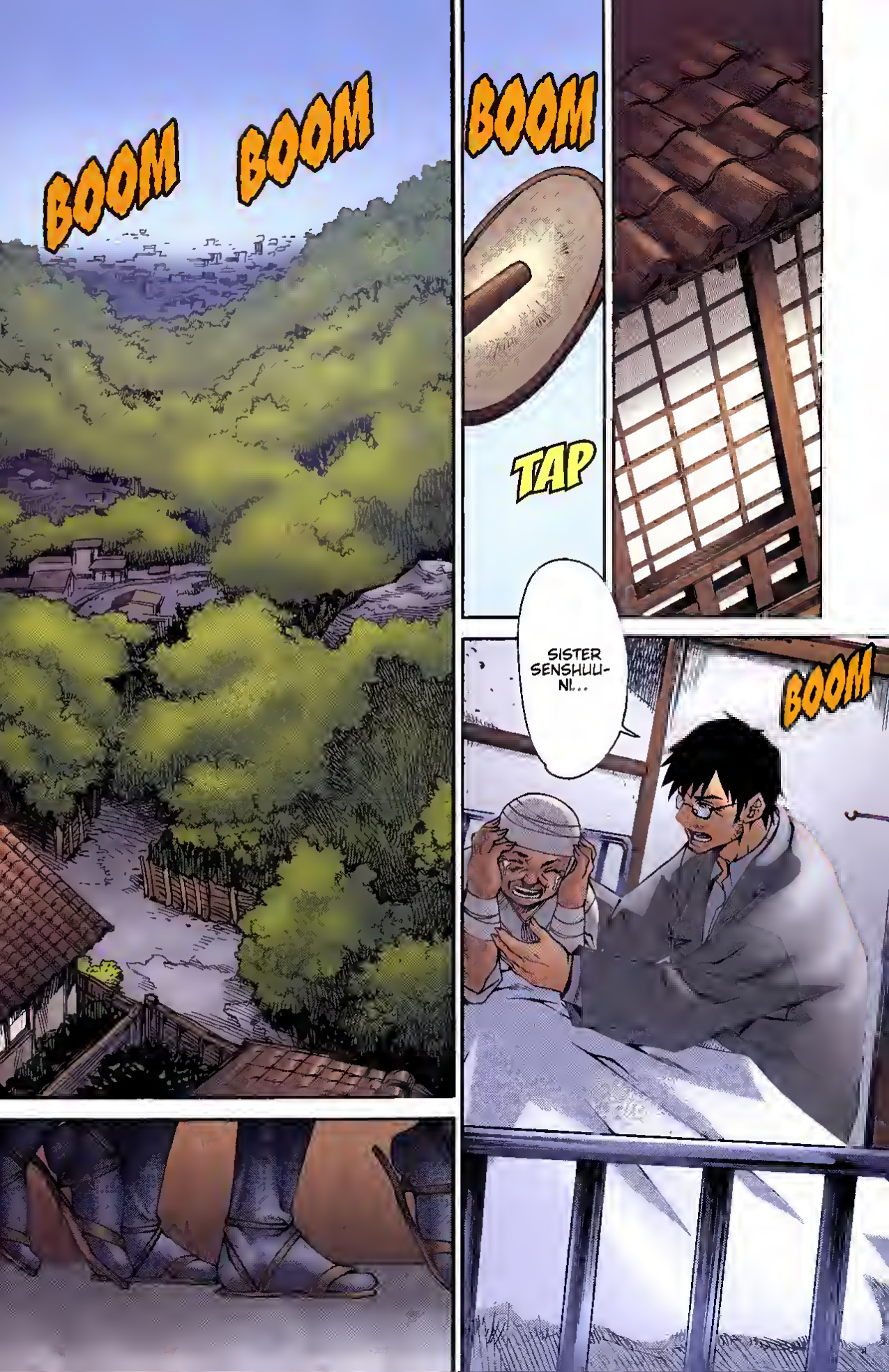
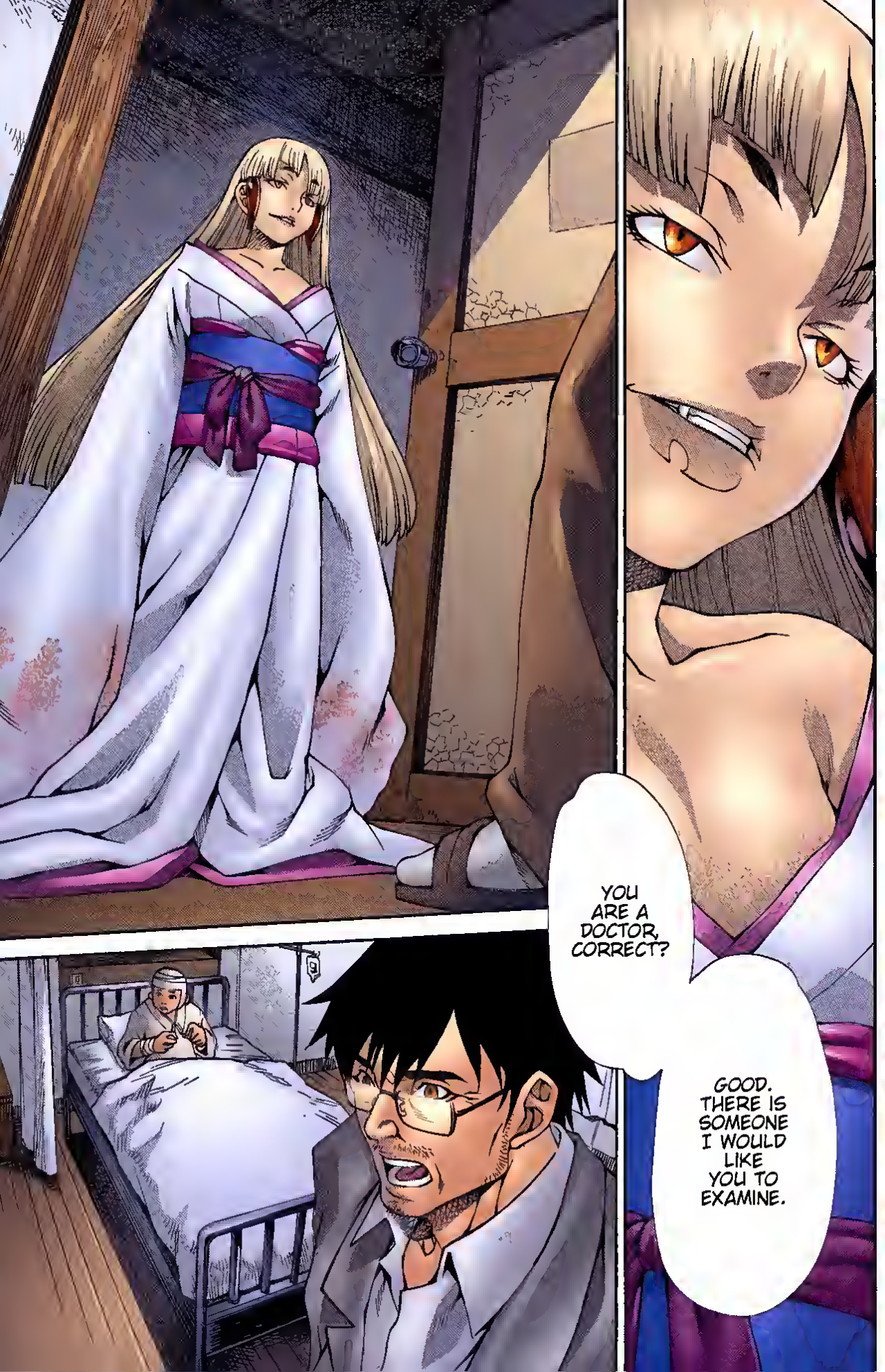
TAKERU MANGA

Chapter 7 Demon Blood


BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
TAP
SISTER SENSHUU-NI...
BOOM

THEY'RE COMING BACK!
THE DEMONS HAVE RETURNED!
BOOM
DAMN IT...
BOOM
WOOOOSH
I'M CALLING THE MAYOR--
CLICK


YOU ARE A DOCTOR, CORRECT?
GOOD. THERE IS SOMEONE I WOULD LIKE YOU TO EXAMINE.

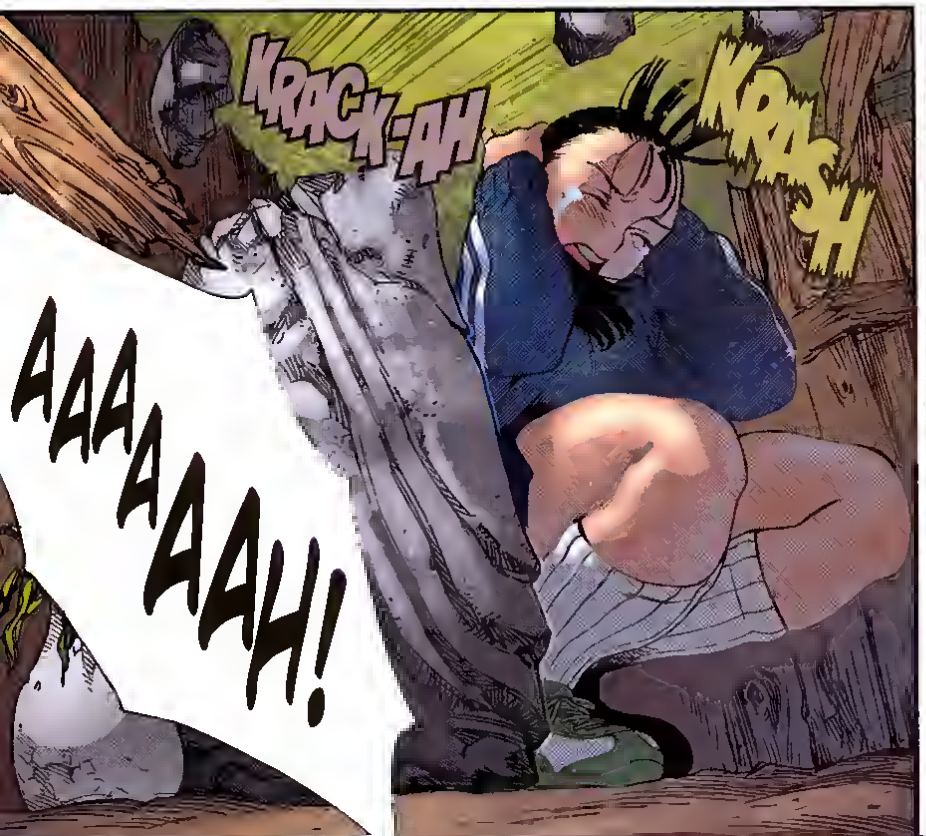
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
TAP
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
AAAAHGLGHK!

GLGGHHH...
CHOMP CHOMP...
SLLLURRRP
KRUNCH
GLUGHHH...
SPLAT

TAP
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
HUH?
AAAHHHH!!!
AAAAAAH!

IT'S NO USE... THE PHONES ARE DOWN.
HUH?!
AAAAAAAAH!

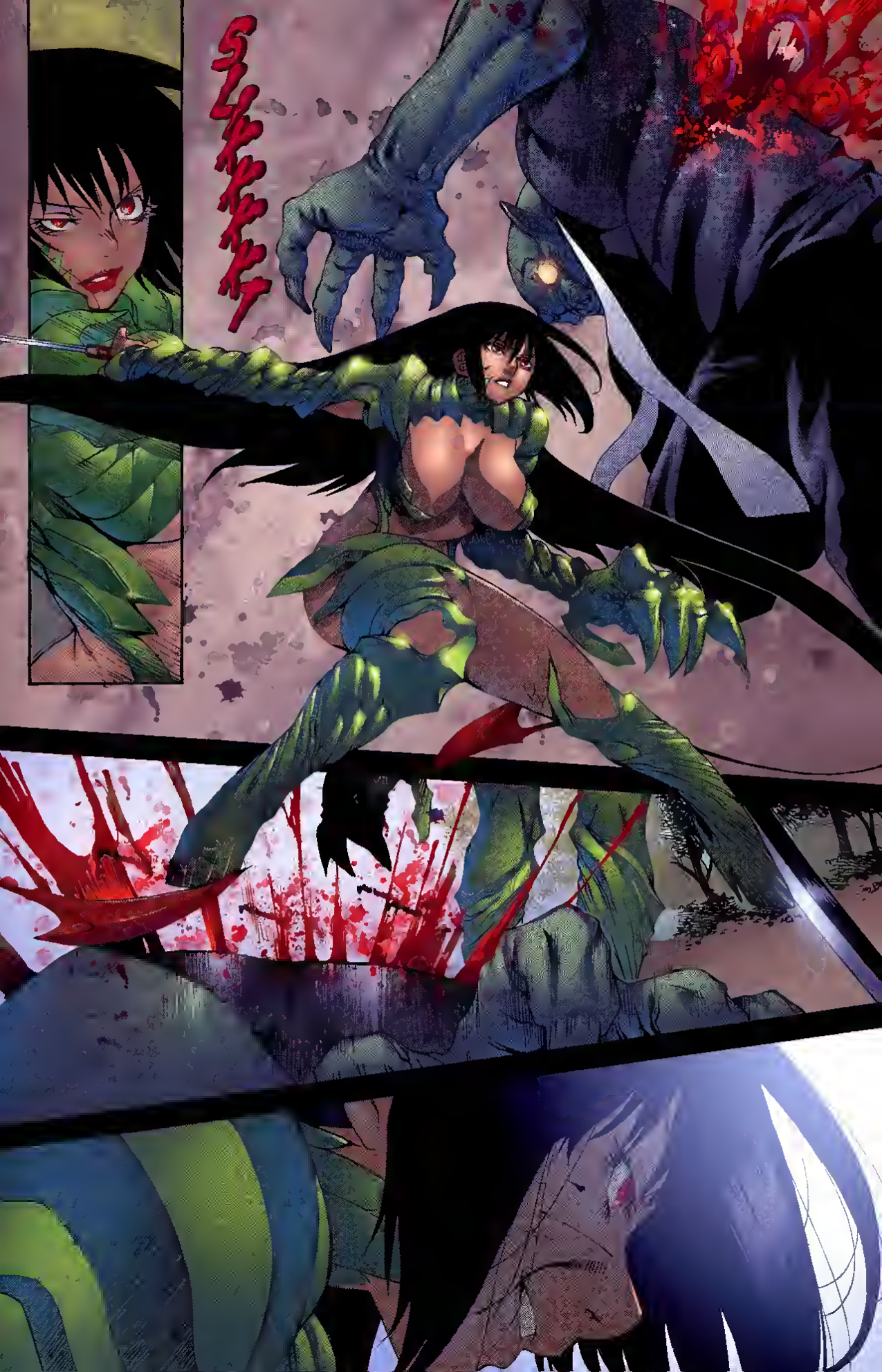
PLEASE... TELL THEM TO FEED IN MODERATION.
AND COLLECT THE VILLAGERS IN ONE PLACE BEFORE THEY'RE ALL EATEN.
YES, SIR.
OH, AND MAKE SURE TO SEPARATE THE YOUNG WOMEN.
LADY FUURA WILL CERTAINLY ASK FOR THEM.
AS YOU WISH.
SHALL I HAVE SOME OF THEM PREPARED FOR YOU AS WELL, MASTER GAKURA?
NO NEED.
I'M A VEGETARIAN.


KRACK-AH
KRASH
AAAAAAH!

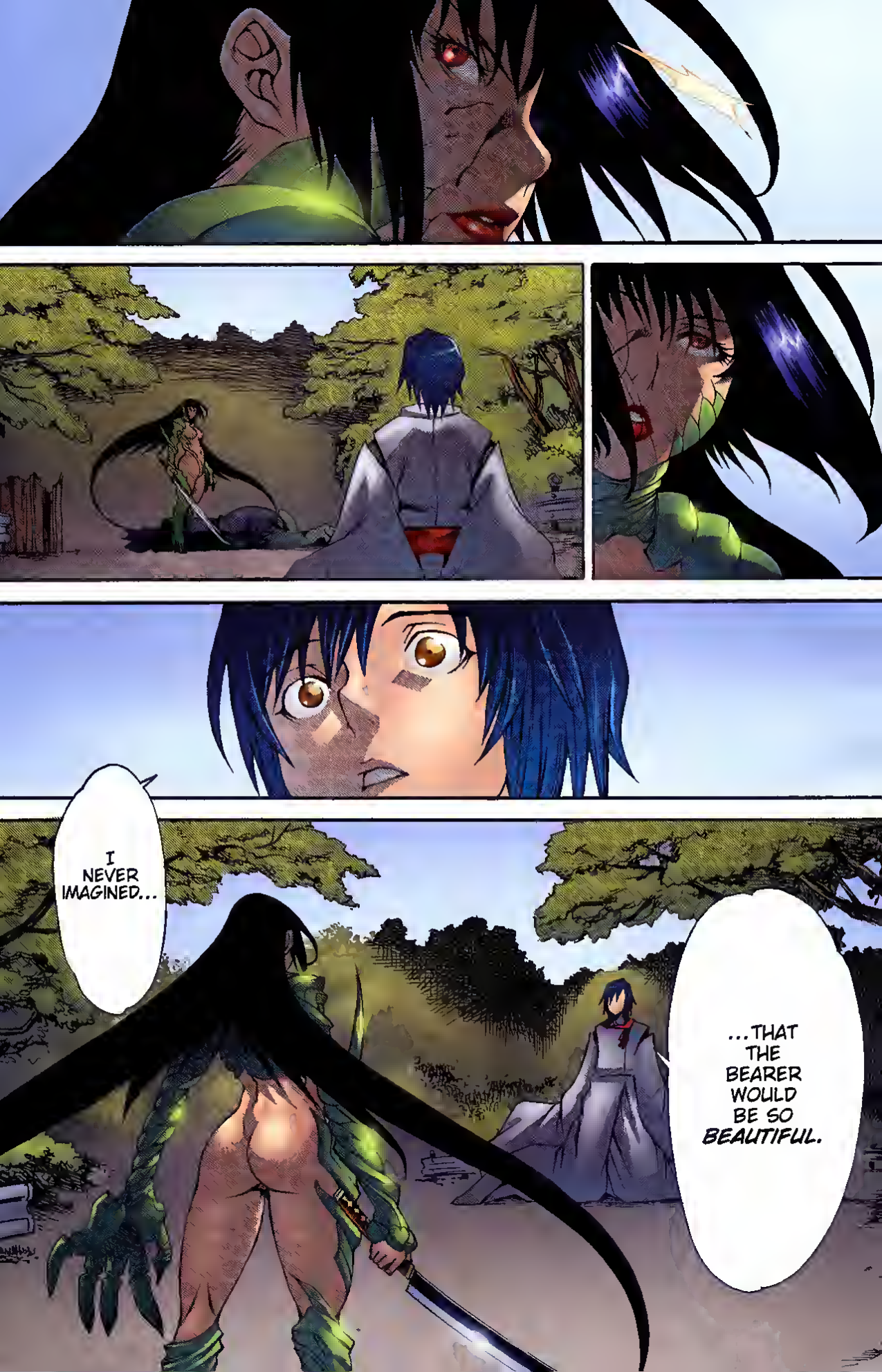
I'LL TAKE THIS ONE...
WAIT! WE SHARE... HALF AND HALF.
UH...
OH..
DRIP DRIP...
FINE...
BUT I GET TO SPLIT HER...

WITCH-BLADE!
HUH?!
BUT HOW... WHY IS SHE HERE?!

YOU... WERE TAKEN BY THE HUMAN MILITARY.
FOOL! THIS WAS OUR VILLAGE FIRST!
LEAVE MY VILLAGE...
NOW.


SLASH

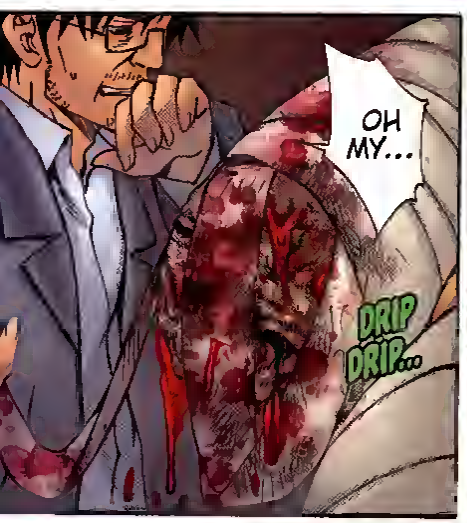
AAH...
OHHH.
SOB
SNIFF... OH..
...

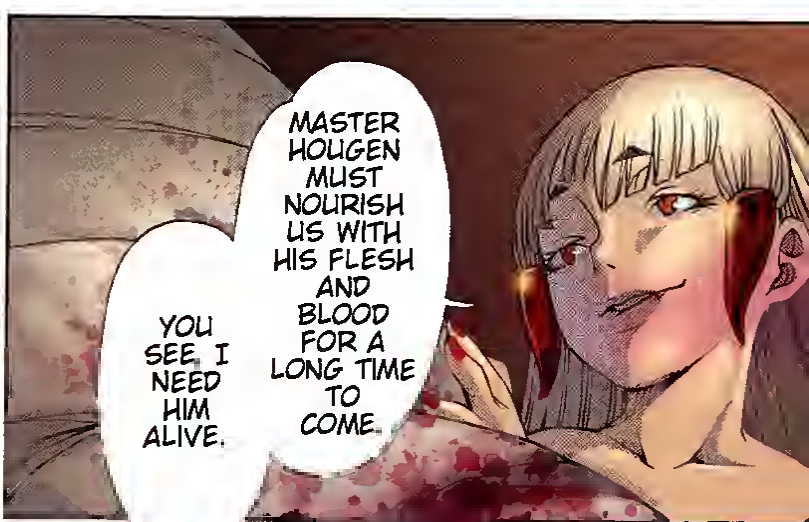

I NEVER IMAGINED...
...THAT THE BEARER WOULD BE SO BEAUTIFUL.

STILL, I NEVER EXPECTED THE MILITARY TO ACTUALLY DISPATCH THE WITCHBLADE ONCE THEY FINALLY GOT THEIR GREEDY LITTLE HANDS ON YOU.
I SEE...
WELL, I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH MY BUSINESS.
I CAME BECAUSE I WANTED TO. NO ONE DISPATCHES ME.
INTERFERE?!
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU.

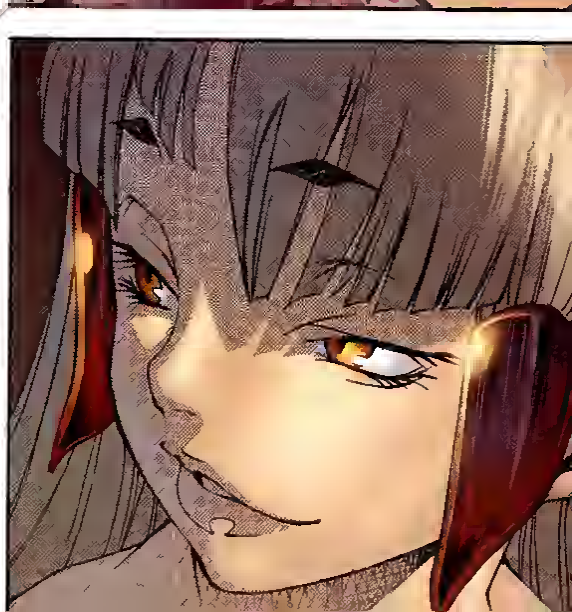
HONESTLY, I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED NOT TO FIGHT...
BUT SOME THINGS ARE UNAVOIDABLE.

HMM... NO ONE'S ANSWERING.
HEY! PULL YOUR PANTIES UP!
I WONDER IF THEY FOUND TAKERU-CHAN AND KOU-KUN YET.
MAYBE I'LL STOP BY ON MY WAY HOME.


OH MY...
DRIP DRIP...

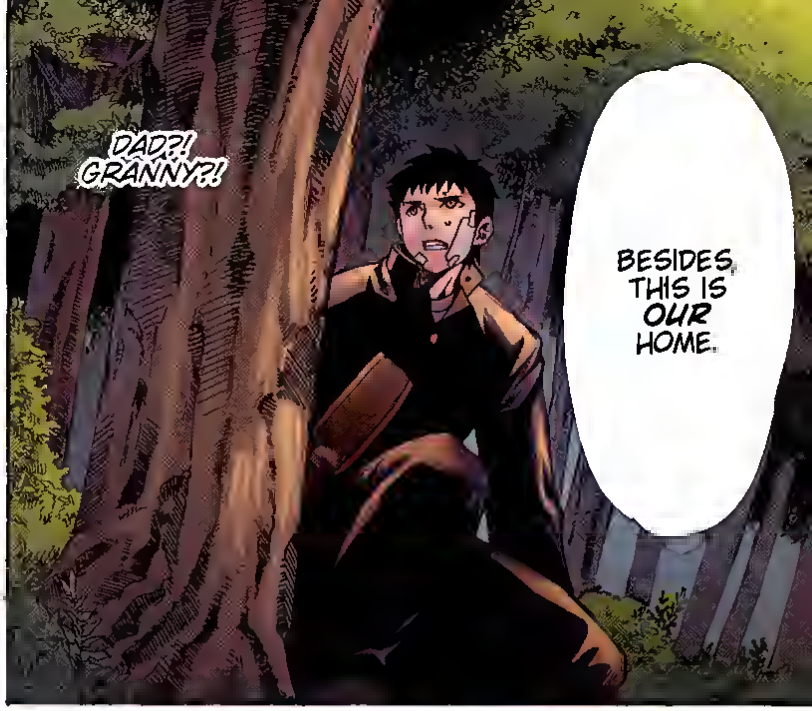

MASTER HOUGEN MUST NOURISH US WITH HIS FLESH AND BLOOD FOR A LONG TIME TO COME.
YOU SEE, I NEED HIM ALIVE.

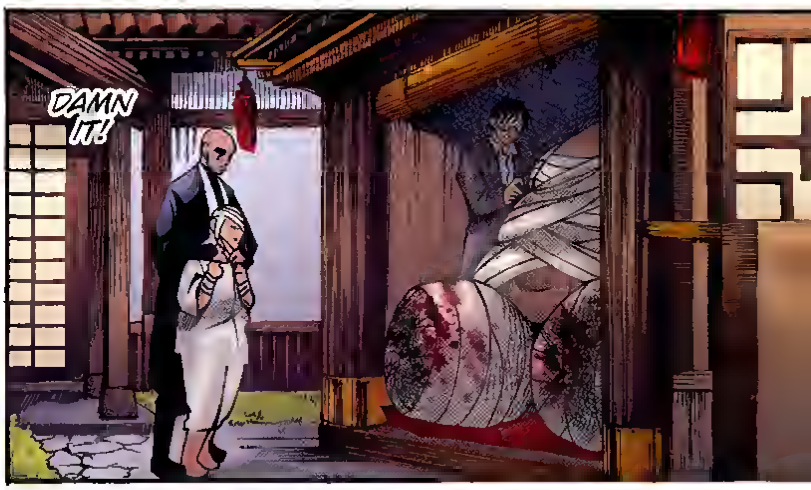
YOU'VE BEEN EATING HIM?!



LEVEL WITH ME, DOCTOR.
IS THERE ANY WAY YOU CAN REBUILD HIS ARMS AND LEGS?
UNGH
NO! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU, CRAZY?!
GASP!
UN-BELIEV-ABLE...
UNGH
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT?!
WHY ON EARTH HAVE YOU DISTURBED OUR QUIET LITTLE VILLAGE.
UGH

THIS "QUIET LITTLE VILLAGE" IS SURROUNDED BY MOUNTAINS ON THREE SIDES, MAKING IT CONVENIENT TO DEFEND.

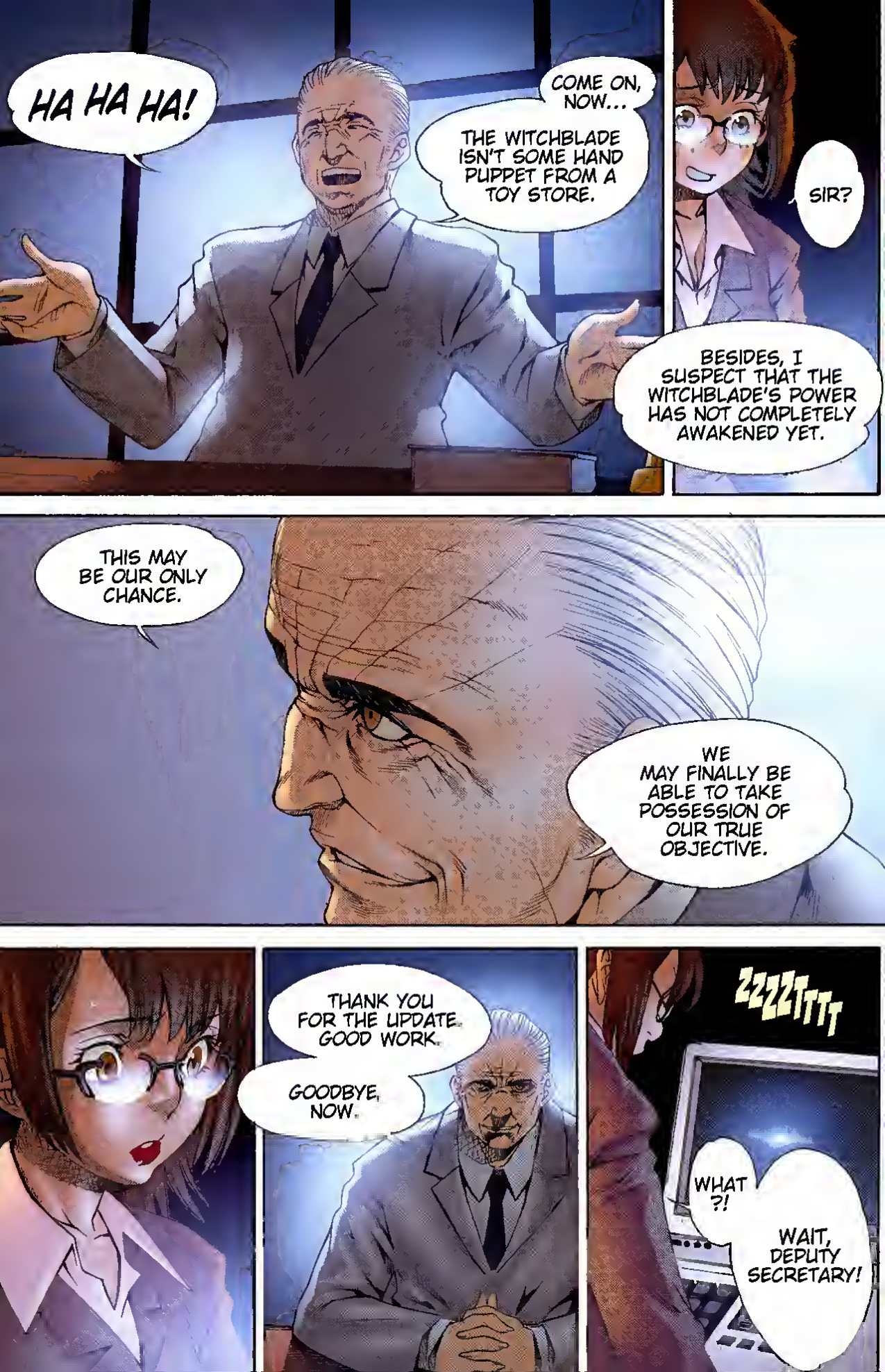

DAD?! GRANNY?!
BESIDES, THIS IS OUR HOME.


DAMN IT!

YOUR HOME?
THEN... YOU REALLY ARE THE DEMONS FROM THE LEGEND.

THAT'S RIGHT.
WE'VE BEEN RESUR-RECTED.
THANKS TO MASTER HOUGEN.
THAT MARK! OH MY, CAN IT BE?!
THAT THIS THING THEY CALL HOUGEN IS REALLY...

YES, SIR, SHE LEFT OUR CUSTODY WHEN SHE HEARD HER VILLAGE WAS UNDER ATTACK.
AND I JUST RECEIVED AN UPDATE FROM OUR STAFF...
SHE IS CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN COMBAT WITH THE DEMONS.
THIS IS BAD, DEPUTY SECRE-TARY.
WE HAVE TO STOP HER, IMMEDI-ATELY.
WHY? SHE HAS THE WITCHBLADE.
OH, NO...
ALL OF THE DEMONS ARE CONVERGING ON THE VILLAGE!
EVEN THE WITCH-BLADE COULDN'T POSSIBLY SUR-VIVE--


HA HA HA!
COME ON, NOW...
THE WITCHBLADE ISN'T SOME HAND PUPPET FROM A TOY STORE.
SIR?
BESIDES, I SUSPECT THAT THE WITCHBLADE'S POWER HAS NOT COMPLETELY AWAKENED YET.
THIS MAY BE OUR ONLY CHANCE.
WE MAY FINALLY BE ABLE TO TAKE POSSESSION OF OUR TRUE OBJECTIVE.
THANK YOU FOR THE UPDATE. GOOD WORK.
GOODBYE, NOW.
ZZZZTTTT
WHAT ?!
WAIT, DEPUTY SECRETARY!

OUR TRUE OBJECT-IVE?!
THAT MEANS IT'S NOT THE WITCH-BLADE!
THINGS ARE GOING TO GET HECTIC, RALEIGH.
ISSUE AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO YOKOSUKA BASE TO BE ON COVERT STANDBY AS A TRAINING EXERCISE.
FULL READINESS ALERT FOR THE NIMITZ...
THE ENTERPRISE...
...AND THE RONALD REAGAN, SHOULD BE ENOUGH.

LET'S GET THIS OPERATION UNDERWAY!

CLANG
CHING
SZZZZING
HMM...

YOUR SKILLS ARE TRULY IMPRESSIVE.
INSTEAD OF KILLING YOU AND TAKING THE WITCH BLADE...
WE SHOULD HAVE ASKED YOU TO JOIN US.
DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH. I'LL NEVER BECOME SOME DEMON!
PERHAPS NOT...
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO "BECOME" ONE...
BECAUSE, MY DEAR... YOU ARE ALREADY A DEMON!

AND I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANY PAST BEARER BECOMING A DEMON.
IT'S NO USE.
THAT IS YOUR..
...TRUE NATURE.
LIAR!

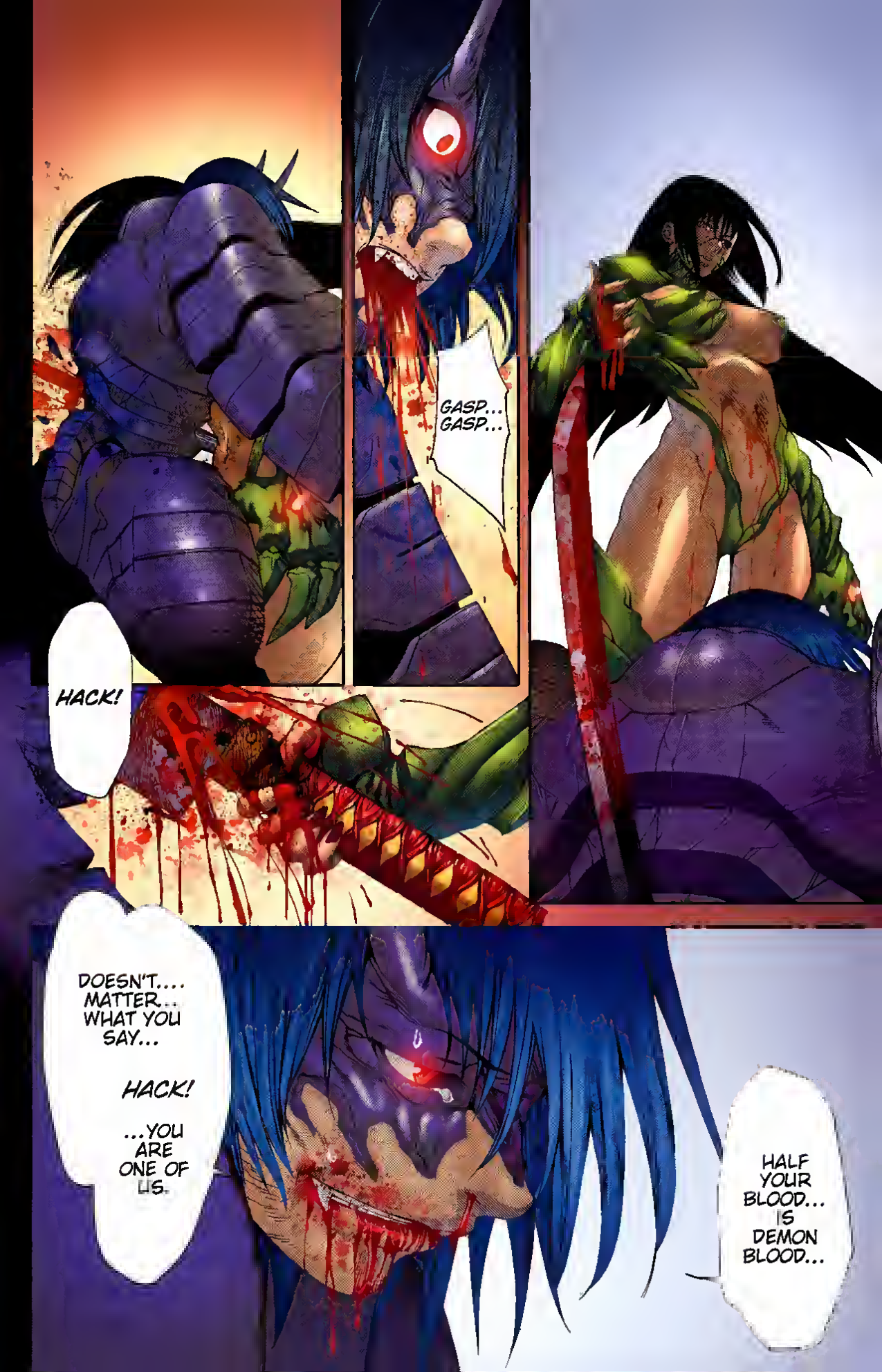
YOU'RE HALF RIGHT...
BUT DEEP DOWN YOU ALREADY KNOW THIS.
ADMIT IT. YOU FEEL THE THIRST... THE DESIRE TO FEED ON HUMANS.
NO!
YOUR BLADE IS USELESS AGAINST ME.
IT CAN'T INFLICT ANY DAMAGE TO MY BODY.
NOW DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
SNATCH

CHOMP
AND EVEN THOUGH I'M A VEGETARIAN...
I REALLY WANT TO TASTE YOUR FLESH.
OH!
CHUCK
KRASH
CLINK
YOU'RE RIGHT...
I HUNGER FOR HUMAN FLESH...
I THIRST FOR HUMAN BLOOD.
AND I CRAVE ONE OTHER THING. I ALSO...

...LOVE THE FEELING OF KILLING MY ENEMIES!
AND IF IT FEELS THIS GOOD, WHY STOP NOW?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO IF YOU JOIN US.
THE U.S. MILITARY WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE NOW.
YOU CAN KILL UNTIL YOUR HEART'S CONTENT...
...AND FEED ON THEM.
YOU ARE TRULY A BEAUTY TO BEHOLD...
...SECOND ONLY TO LADY FUURA.
PLEASE... JOIN US.
WHO CARES WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS WORTHLESS LITTLE VILLAGE?

CRACK
HUH?!
IT'S... IMPOSSIBLE!
YOU ASK WHO CARES?!
I DO. EVEN IF I WERE A LOWLY DEMON...
THIS VILLAGE IS MY HOME. MY FAMILY'S HOME... YOU DEMONS WERE STUPID ENOUGH TO LAY YOUR HANDS ON THEM.
AND FOR THAT...
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU.

KRACK
UNGH!
AAAAAAHHHHHH!
THUK


GASP... GASP...
HACK!
HALF YOUR BLOOD... IS DEMON BLOOD...
DOESN'T.... MATTER... WHAT YOU SAY...
HACK!
...YOU ARE ONE OF US.

IT'S IN YOUR VEINS...
IT IS WHAT DREW THE WITCHBLADE TO YOU...
IT CAN'T BE... THERE'S DEMON BLOOD... IN ME?!
TO BE CONTINUED

# WITCHBLADE

## TAKERU MANGA

9

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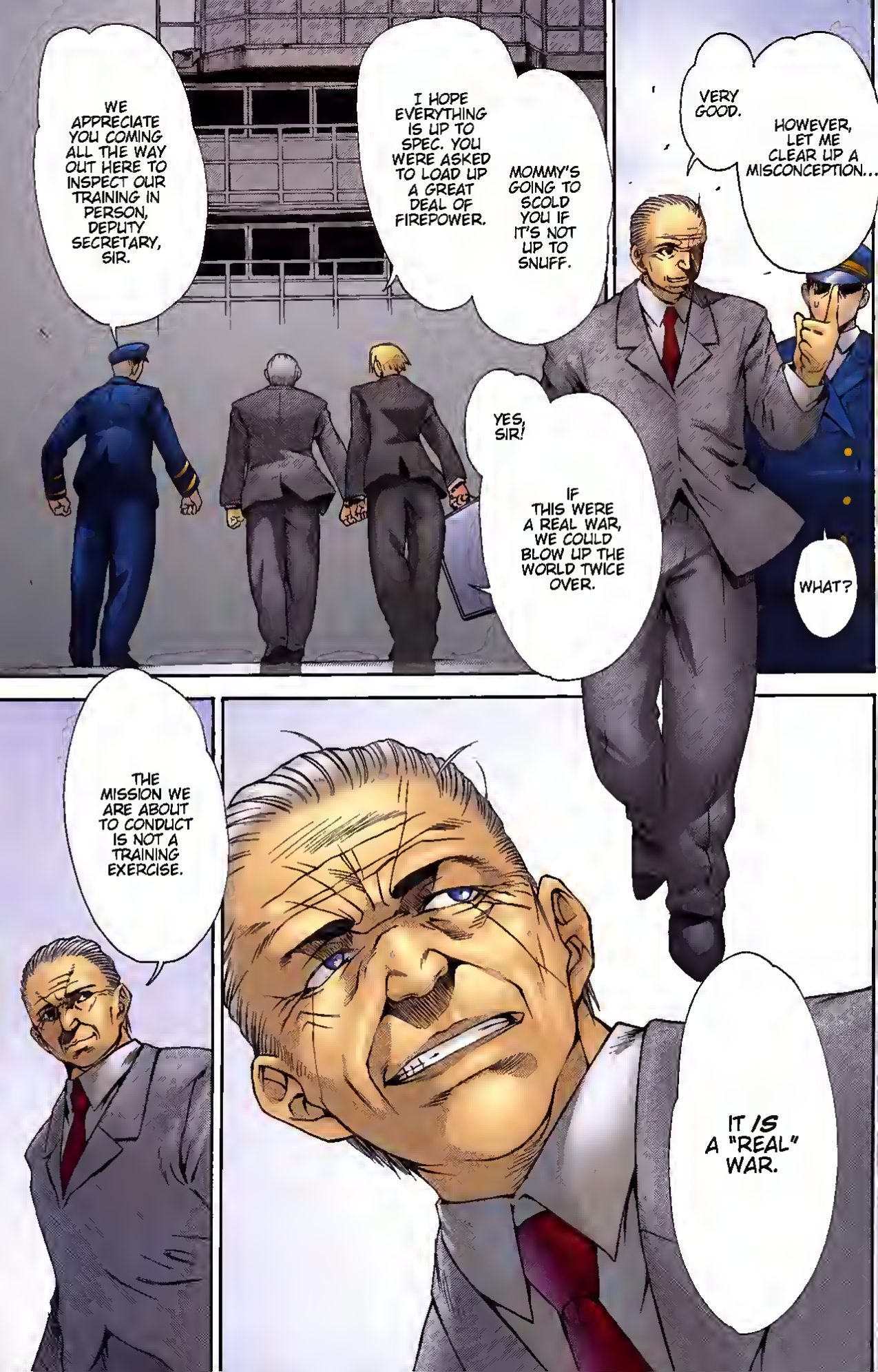
Originally published by Akita Shoten as Witchblade Takeru.


# WITCHBLADE™

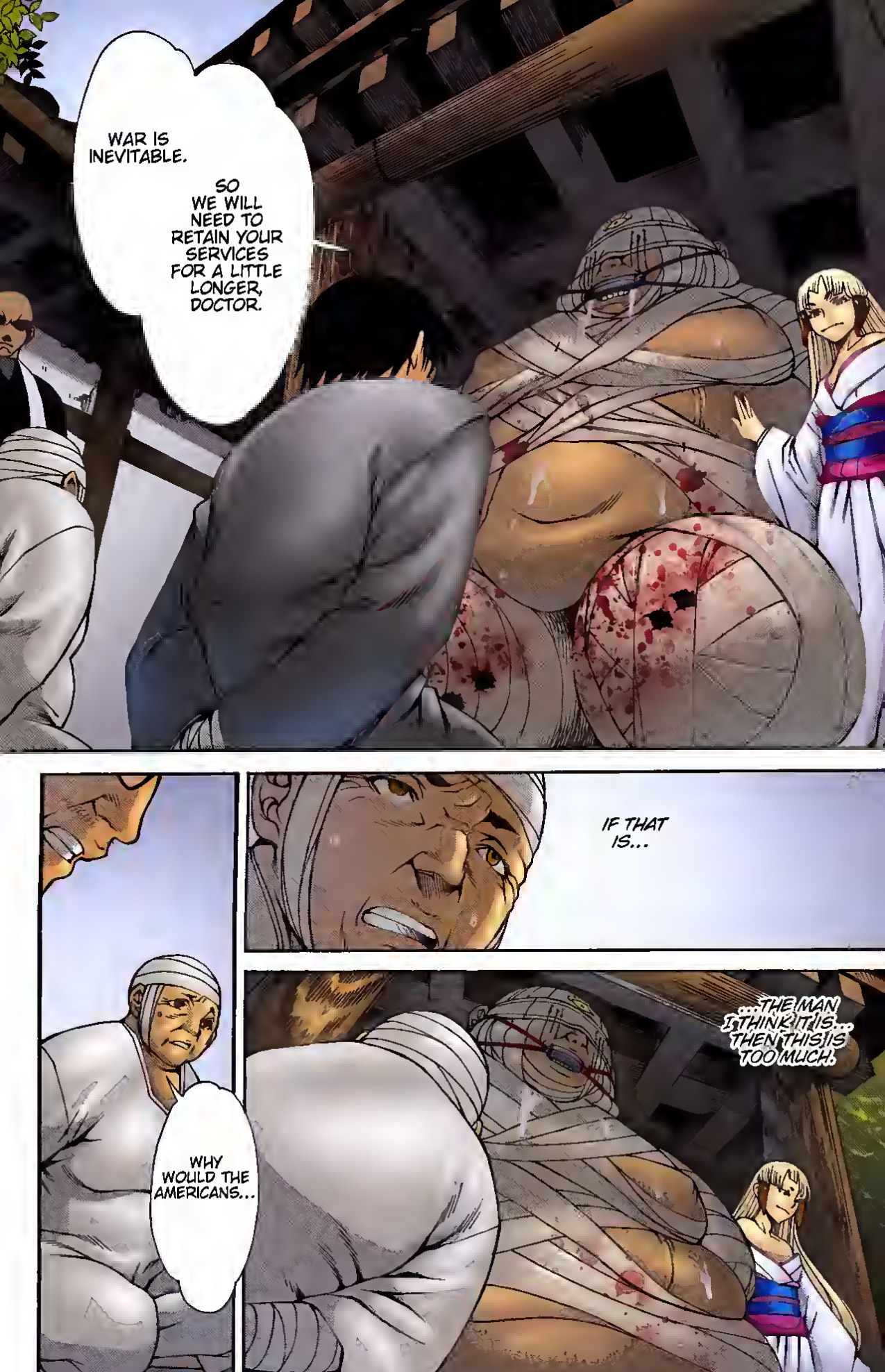
TAKERU MANGA

WUPWUPWUPWUPWUPWUP
The Final Awakening
WUPWUP
WUPWUPWUPWUP

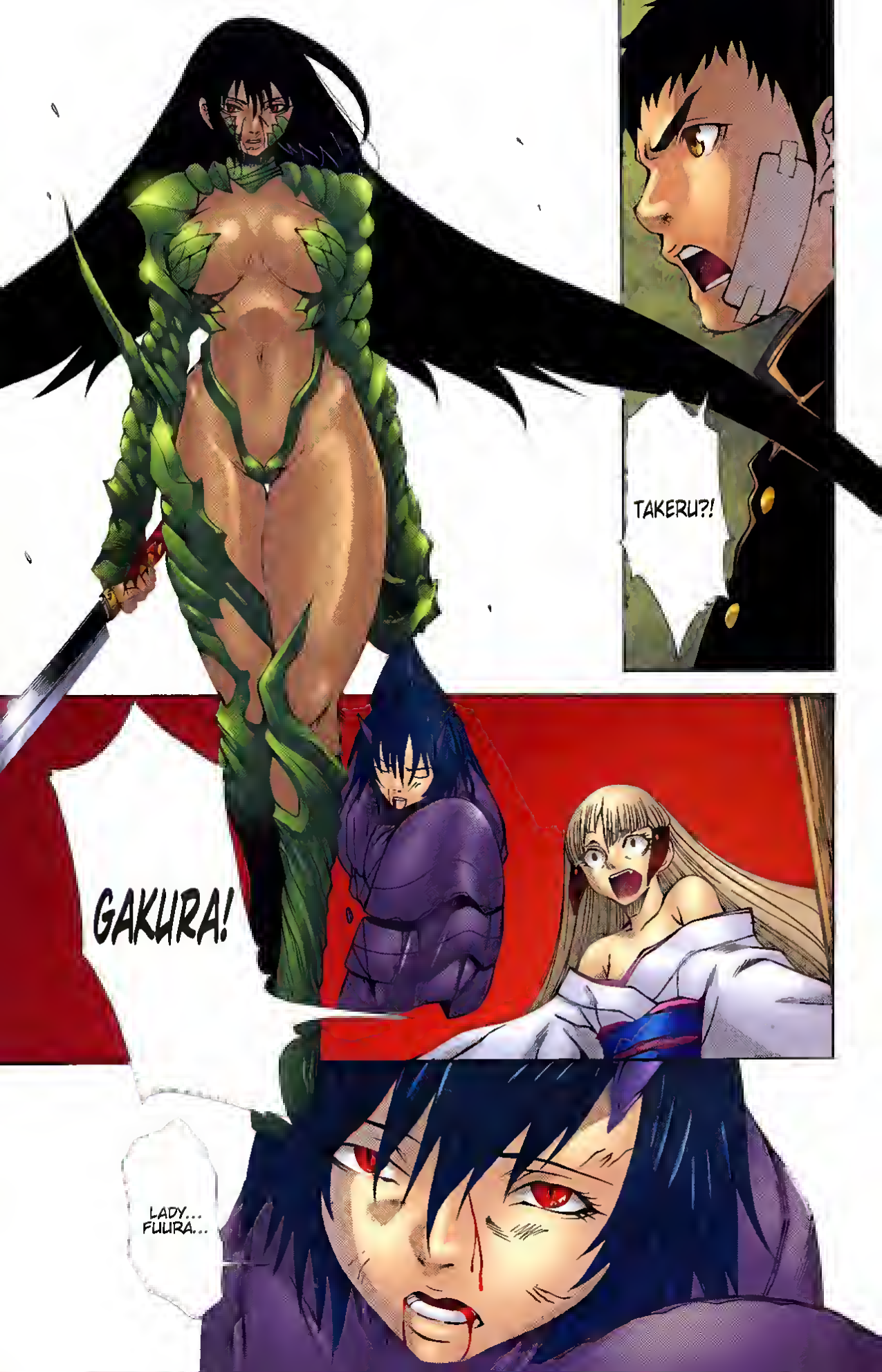

WE APPRECIATE YOU COMING ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO INSPECT OUR TRAINING IN PERSON, DEPUTY SECRETARY, SIR.
I HOPE EVERYTHING IS UP TO SPEC. YOU WERE ASKED TO LOAD UP A GREAT DEAL OF FIREPOWER.
MOMMY'S GOING TO SCOLD YOU IF IT'S NOT UP TO SNUFF.
VERY GOOD.
HOWEVER, LET ME CLEAR UP A MISCONCEPTION...
YES, SIR!
IF THIS WERE A REAL WAR, WE COULD BLOW UP THE WORLD TWICE OVER.
WHAT?
THE MISSION WE ARE ABOUT TO CONDUCT IS NOT A TRAINING EXERCISE.
IT *IS* A "REAL" WAR.

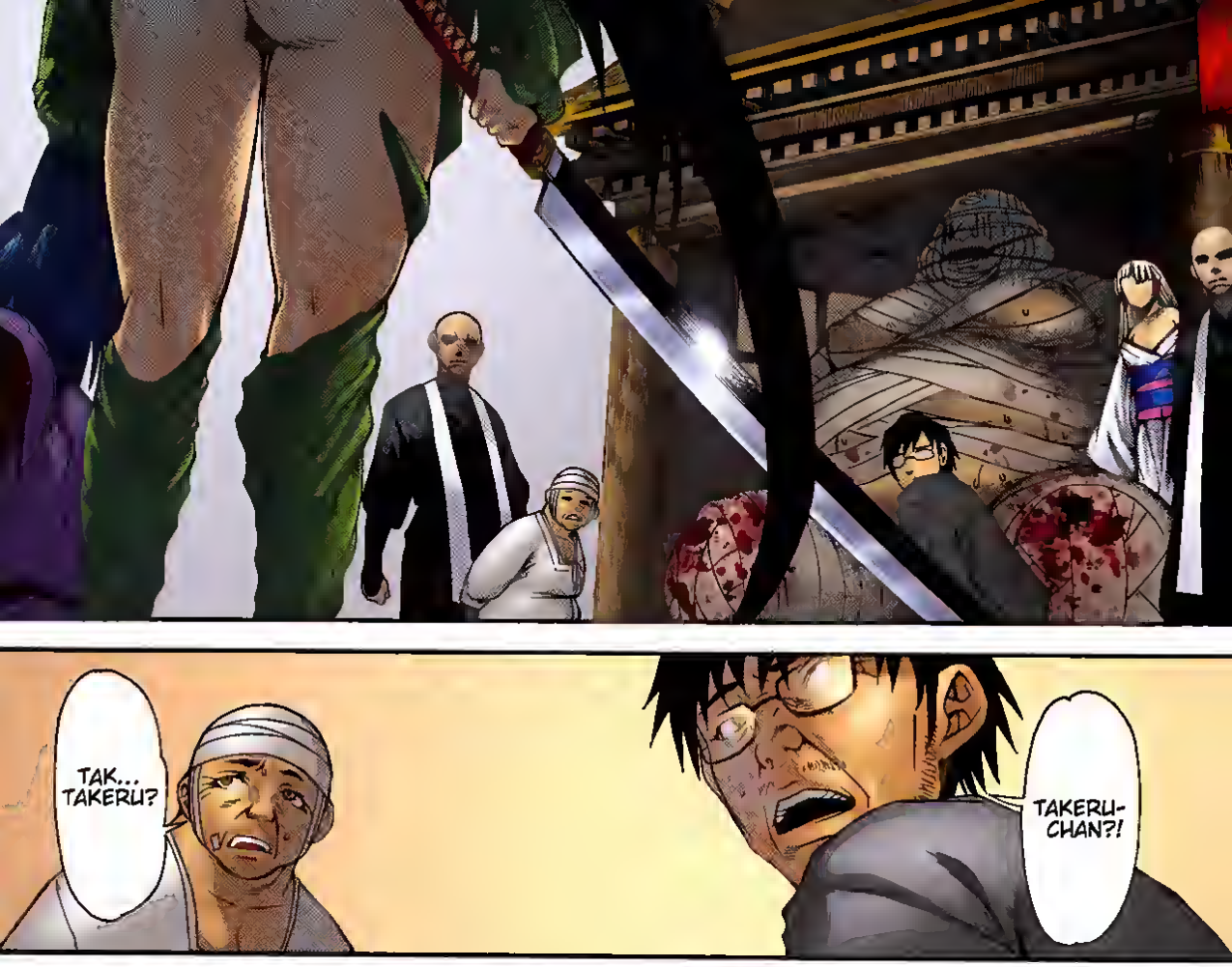
WHAT?!
SO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY IS GOING TO HUNT DEMONS?!
THAT'S UNHEARD OF, EVEN IN THE MOVIES!
MAYBE...
BUT IT'S A REALITY.
THE U.S. NAVY IS MAKING A MOVE?!
THIS IS GOING TOO FAR..
IT'S BAD ENOUGH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY IS OBSESSED WITH HIS MOTHER, BUT THIS IS JUST INSANE.

AMERICAN FORCES ARE COMING?
YOU MEAN, HERE?!

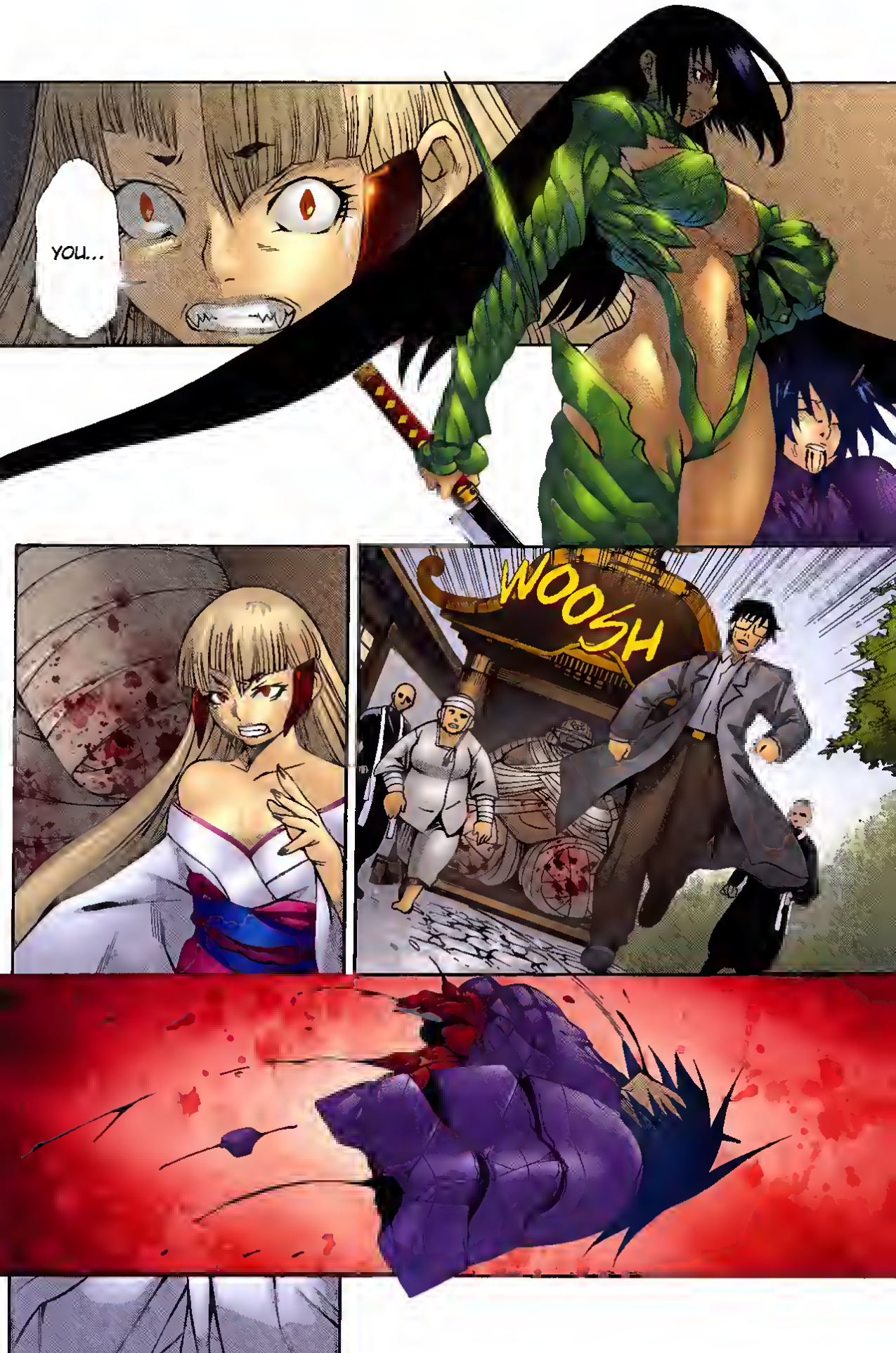

WAR IS INEVITABLE.
SO WE WILL NEED TO RETAIN YOUR SERVICES FOR A LITTLE LONGER, DOCTOR.
IF THAT IS...
...THE MAN I THINK IT IS... THEN THIS IS TOO MUCH.
WHY WOULD THE AMERICANS...

SCRAPE
SCRAPE


TAKERU?!
GAKURA!
LADY... FUURA...

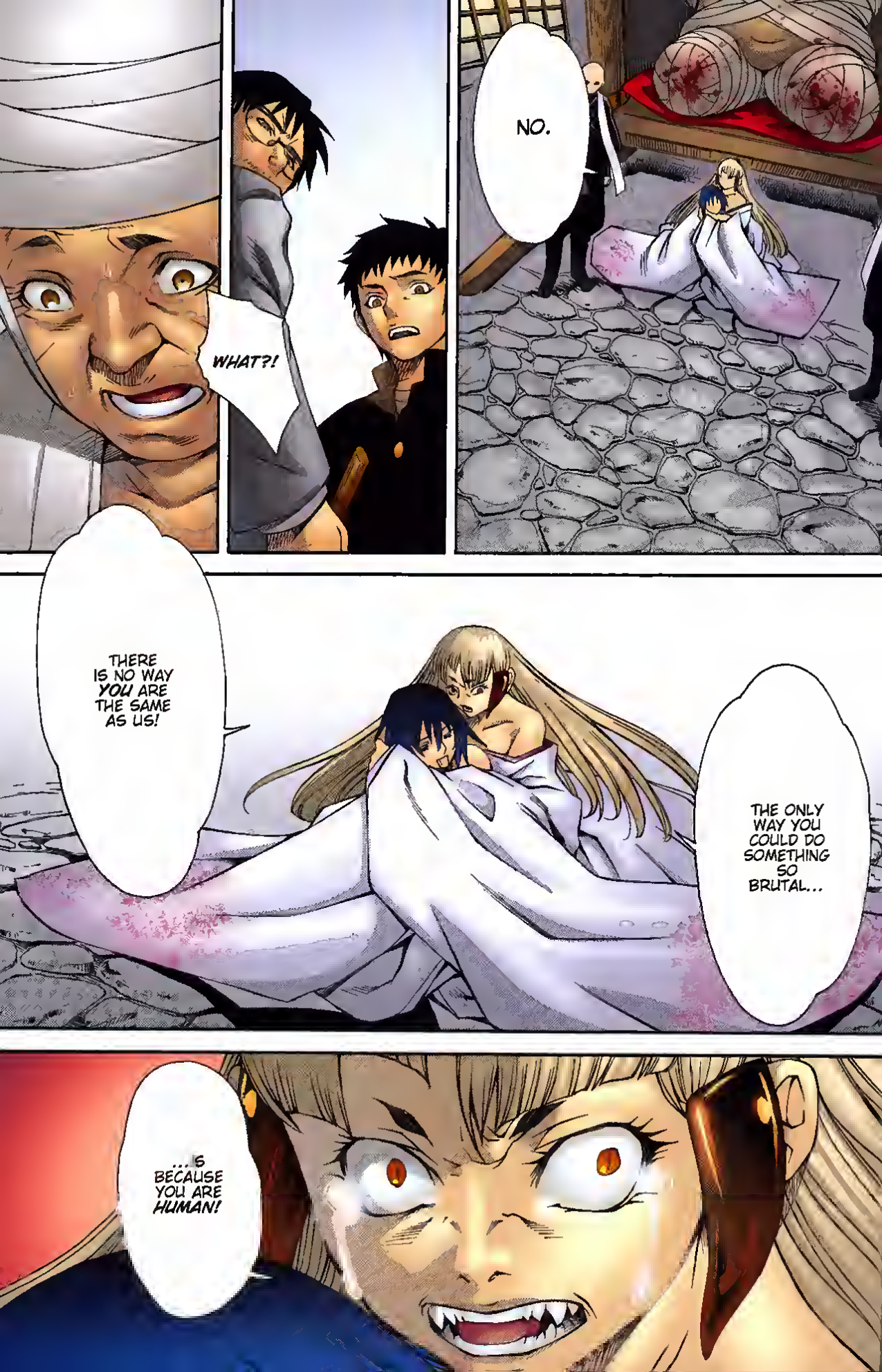

TAK... TAKERU?
TAKERU-CHAN?!

TAKERU!
LET GRANDMA AND KOU'S FATHER GO... NOW.


YOU...
WOOSH

THUD
OH, GAKURA...
IT MUST HAVE BEEN... SO PAINFUL.
I AM SO... SORRY...
LADY FUURA...
TWITCH
TAKERU...
WHY ARE YOU... LIKE THIS?

GRAND--
THUMP
MA...
TAKERU!
GRANDMA,
I'M... A...
I'M HALF DEMON.
HE TOLD ME...
I HAVE DEMON BLOOD COURSING THROUGH MY VEINS.

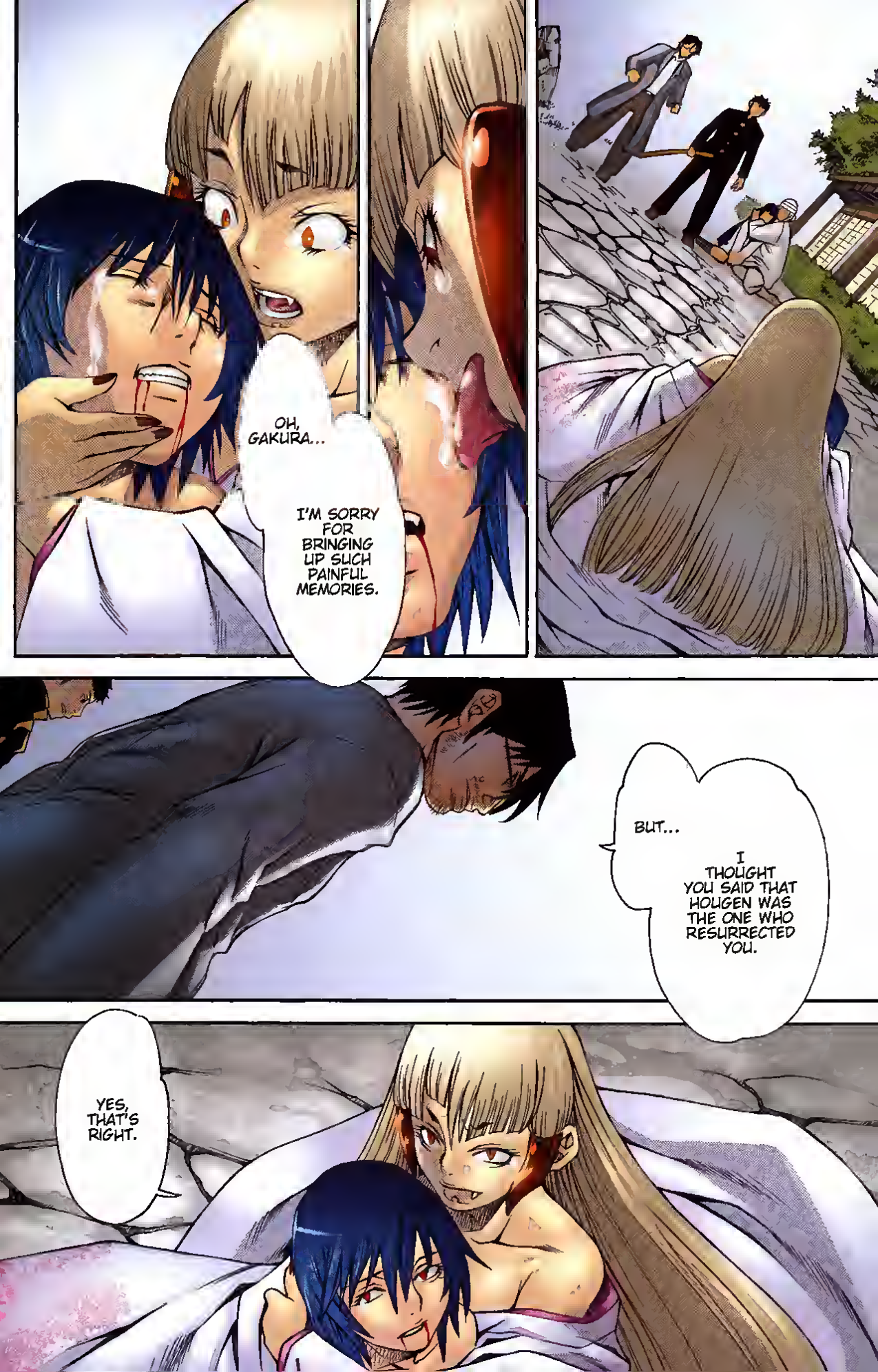

NO.
WHAT?!
THERE IS NO WAY YOU ARE THE SAME AS US!
THE ONLY WAY YOU COULD DO SOMETHING SO BRUTAL...
...6 BECAUSE YOU ARE HUMAN!

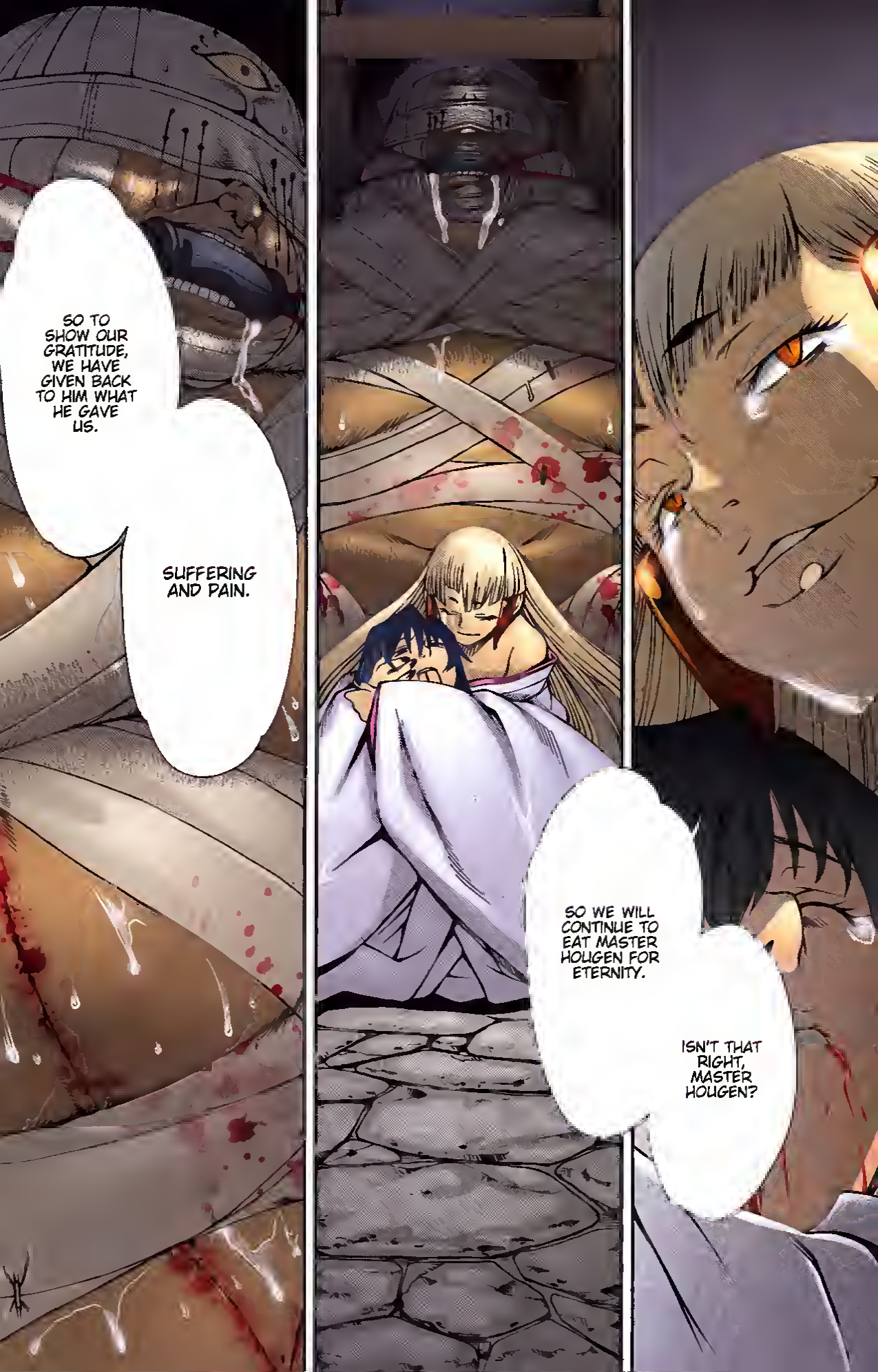
WHO ARE YOU KIDDING?!
YOU DEMONS ARE THE ONES BRUTALLY FEEDING ON US!
HOW IS THAT DIFFERENT THAN WHAT YOU DO TO COWS AND CHICKENS?
EATING HUMANS IS NATURAL BEHAVIOR TO US.
SO YOU SEE...
WE ARE SUPERIOR TO YOU HUMANS, AFTER ALL.
WHAT ?!
THAT'S RIDIC-ULOUS!

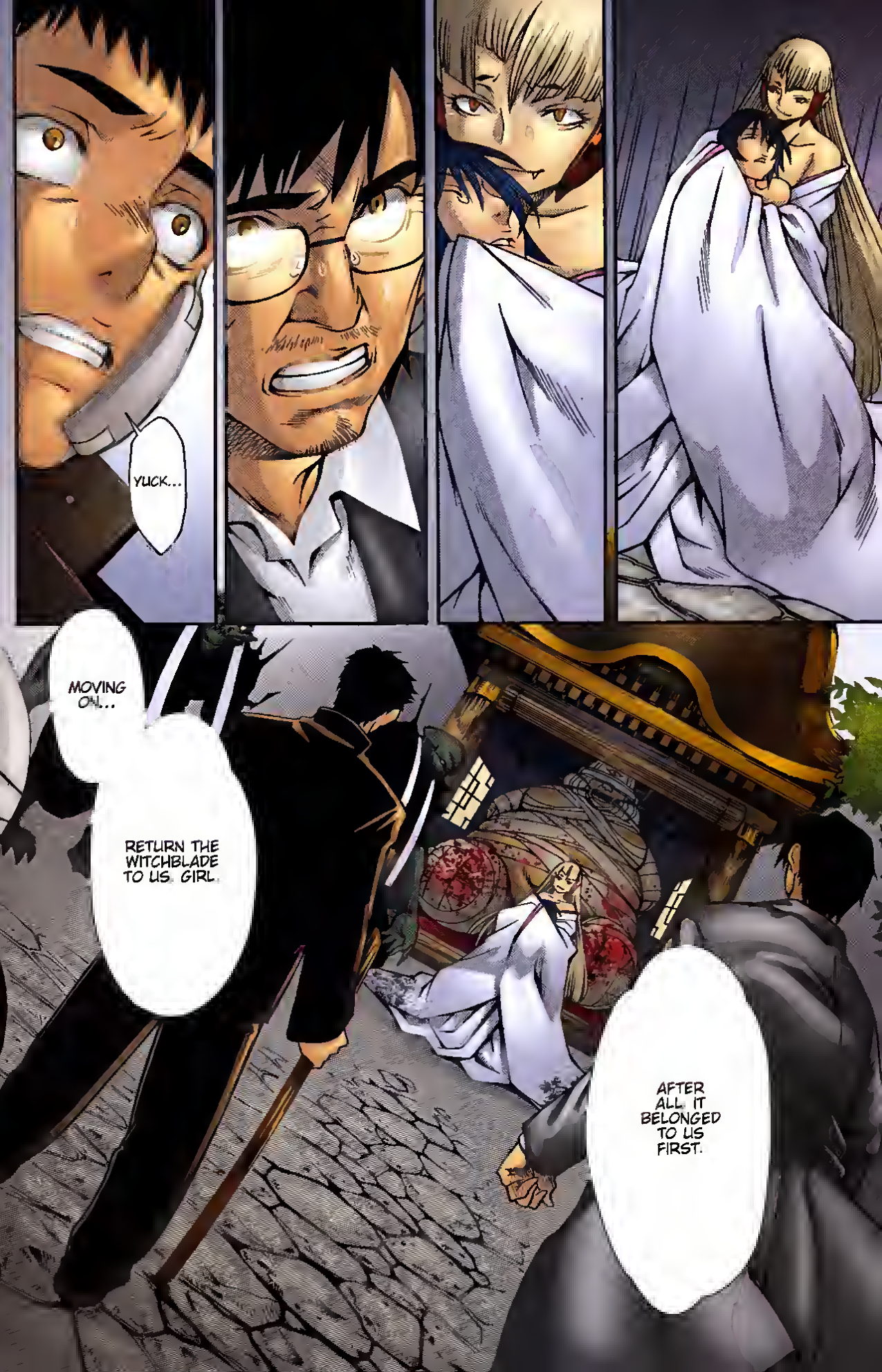
YOUR ANCESTORS REFUSED TO ACCEPT THAT, AND THAT IS WHY THEY WIPED US DEMONS OUT.
SO TYPICAL...
HOW YOU HUMANS LOVE TO DESTROY NATURE.
SHUT UP...
BUT HOW?
IF THE DEMONS WERE TRULY WIPED OUT...
YOU CAN THANK A FOOLISH HUMAN. SOME RESEARCHER...

HE DUG UP OUR BONES.
AND RESURRECTED US USING HIS WORTHLESS TECHNOLOGY.
BECAUSE HE WANTED TO CREATE "THE ULTIMATE LIVING WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION"!
BECAUSE OF WEAPONS?!
YES.
AND FOR THEIR WEAPONS, WE WERE...

WE WERE HORRIBLY TORTURED WHO KNOWS HOW MANY OF US...
NOOOOO!
KOOOH...!
...SUFFERED HUMILIATION AND EXCRUCIATING PAIN.
ALL BEFORE THEY WERE MURDERED IN THE NAME OF MILITARY SCIENCE.


OH, GAKURA...
I'M SORRY FOR BRINGING UP SUCH PAINFUL MEMORIES.
BUT...
I THOUGHT YOU SAID THAT HOUGEN WAS THE ONE WHO RESURRECTED YOU.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.


SO TO SHOW OUR GRATITUDE, WE HAVE GIVEN BACK TO HIM WHAT HE GAVE US.
SUFFERING AND PAIN.
SO WE WILL CONTINUE TO EAT MASTER HOUGEN FOR ETERNITY.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MASTER HOUGEN?


YUCK...
MOVING ON...
RETURN THE WITCHBLADE TO US, GIRL.
AFTER ALL, IT BELONGED TO US FIRST.

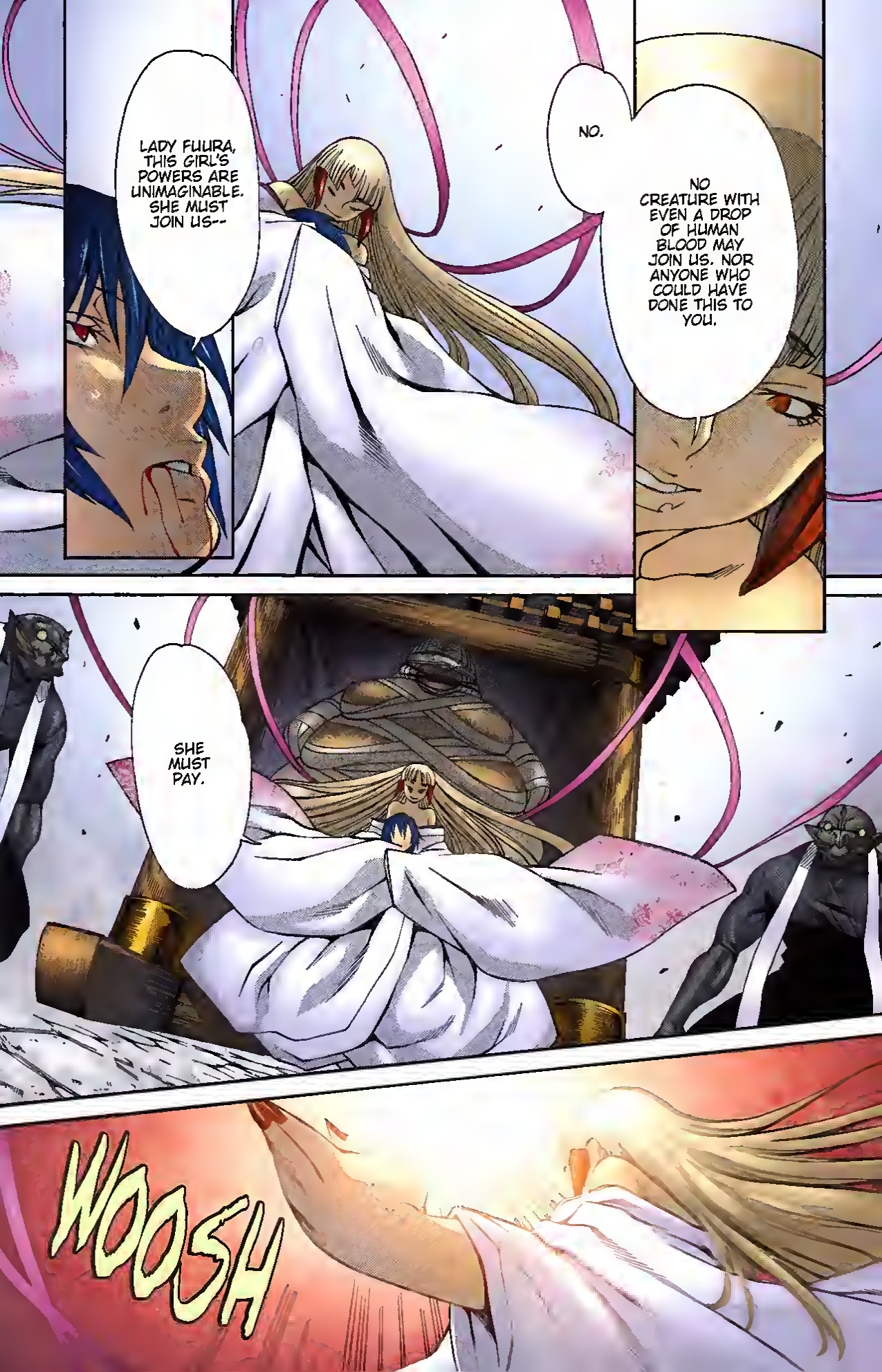
YOU'RE A HALF-BREED, TAINTED BY HUMANITY. YOU DON'T DESERVE IT.
SHE'S NO HALF-BREED!
TAKERU IS HUMAN!
NO... SHE IS A DEMON!

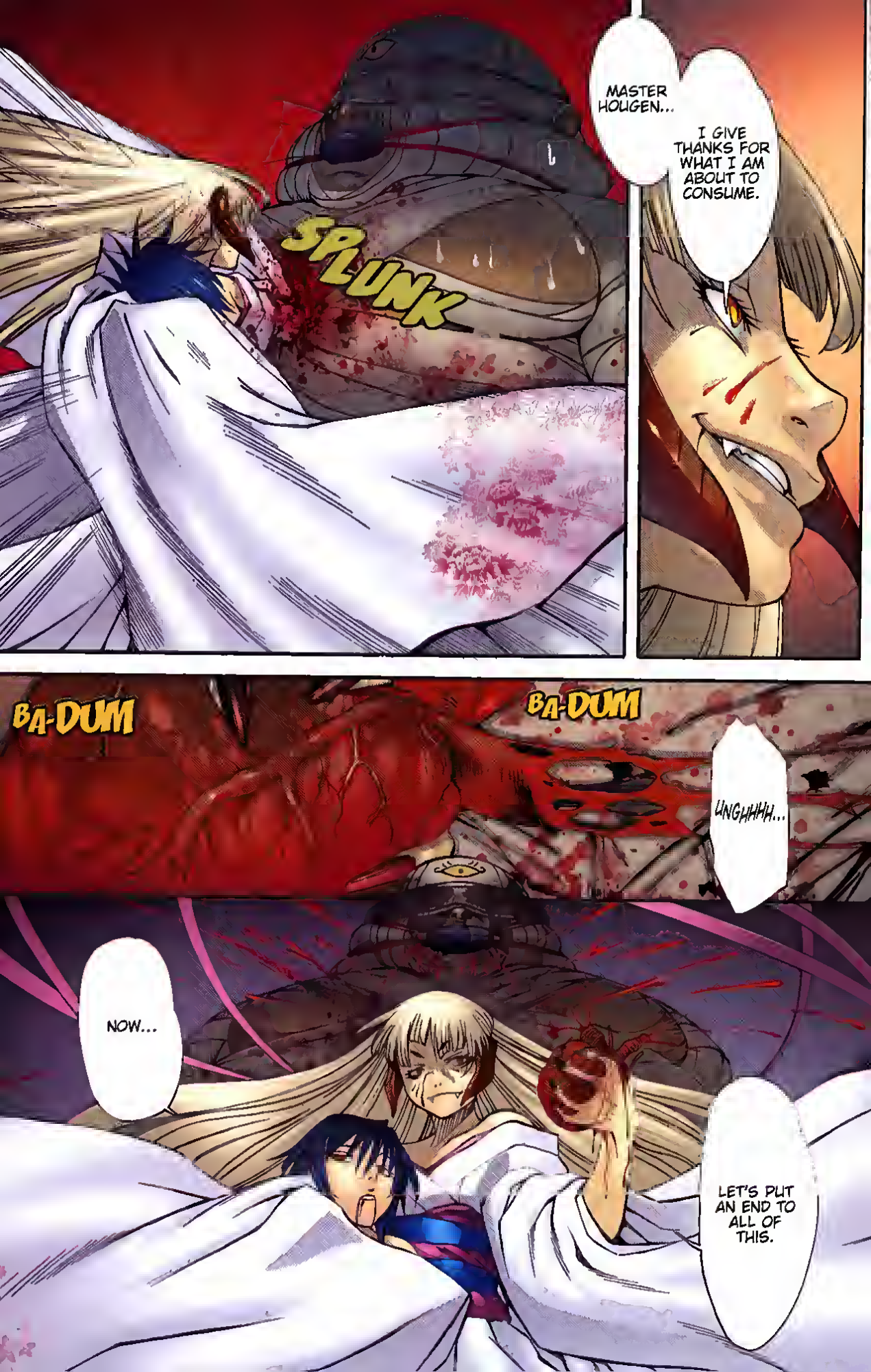
THAT'S RIGHT. ASK MASTER HOUGEN, WHO IMPREGNATED HIS OWN WIFE WITH DEMON DNA.
WHAT?
HIS WIFE...
...TO WHOM HE GAVE THE WITCHBLADE.
UGH...
WHAT?!
OH, GOOD-NESS... IT IS AS I FEARED.
UNGH...

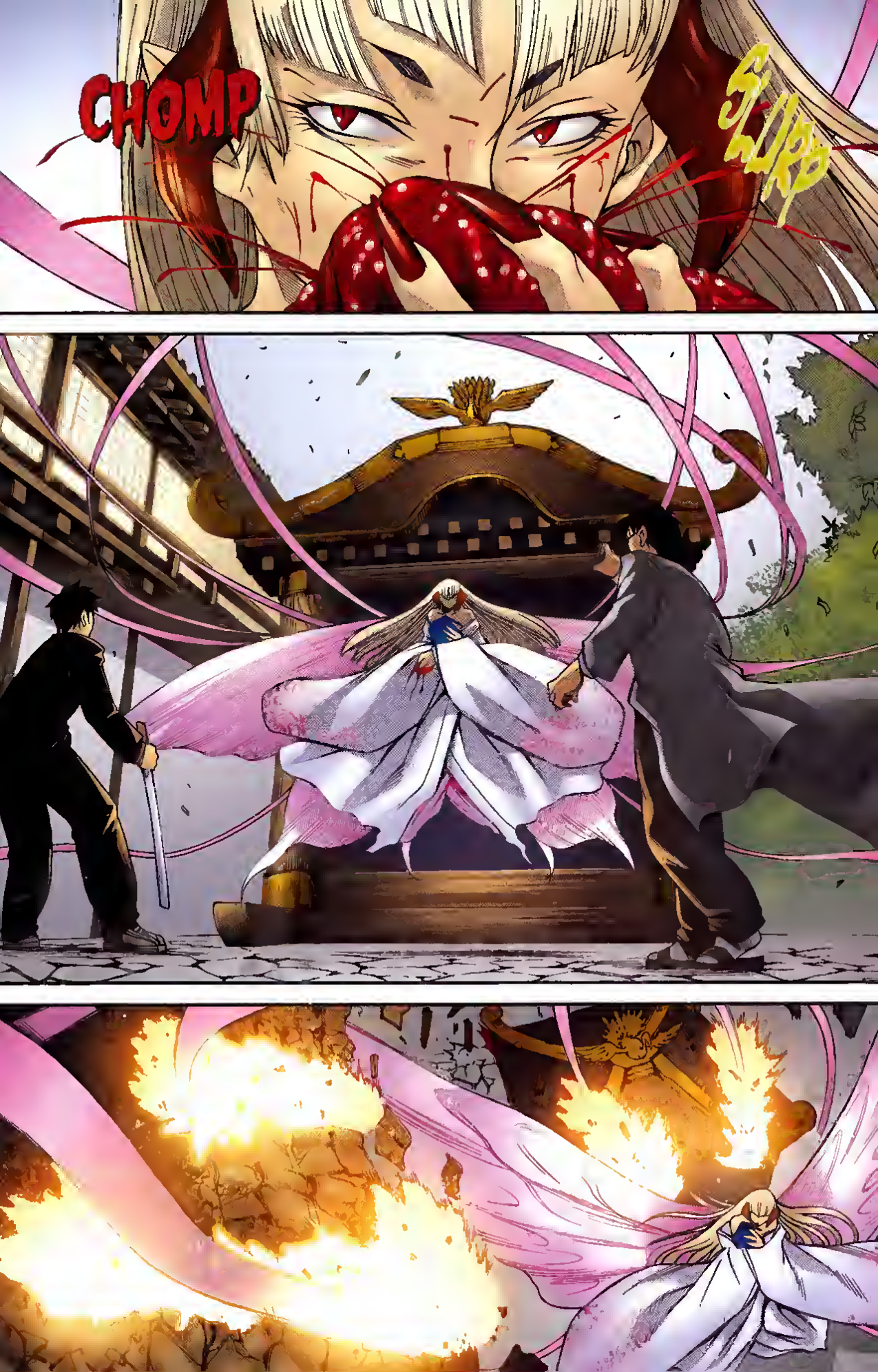
THAT MAN... IS MY DAUGHTER'S...
HE'S MY DAUGHTER AKENO'S HUSBAND.
HE MUST HAVE HOPED THAT THE CHILD BORN TO HER WOULD BECOME A WITCHBLADE BEARER.
UNFORTUNATELY FOR HIS WIFE, SHE MUST HAVE FOUND OUT MUCH LATER.

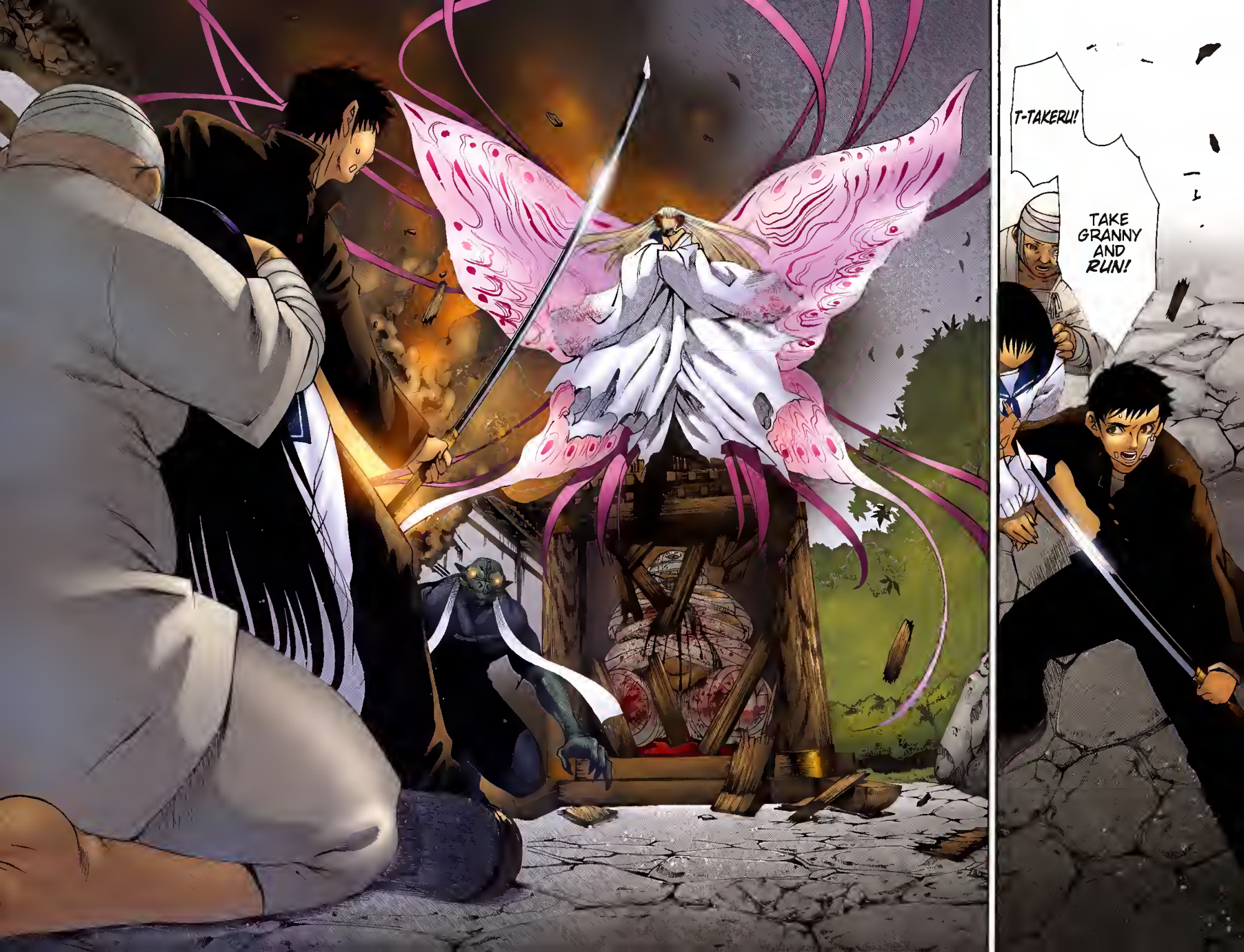
HEY, MOMMY...
WHY DID YOU NAME ME TAKERU? IT'S A BOY'S NAME.
IS IT BETTER TO BE A BOY?
NO, DEAR...IT'S BECAUSE GIRLS BECOME DEMONS.
MY CHILD...
YOU MUST NEVER GO NEAR THE DEMON'S HAND.

IT'S ABSOLUTELY PERVERSE, ISN'T IT?! THAT HE WOULD CREATE SUCH A BASTARD DEMON-CHILD.
OH...
MOMMY...
NO HUMAN BEING COULD KNOWINGLY STOMACH SUCH A THING.
BEARING SUCH AN UNNATURAL CHILD.
I'M... HUMAN AND DEMON...
I'M A MON-STER.
TAKERU!
IT'S MY FAULT...
BECAUSE I'M A... DEMON.
THAT'S A HORRIBLE THING...
BUT NOW I KNOW WHY AKENO SUFFERED DEARLY WHILE GIVING BIRTH TO TAKERU-CHAN.
MY MOTHER WAS...
OH...


LADY FUURA, THIS GIRL'S POWERS ARE UNIMAGINABLE. SHE MUST JOIN US--
NO.
NO CREATURE WITH EVEN A DROP OF HUMAN BLOOD MAY JOIN US. NOR ANYONE WHO COULD HAVE DONE THIS TO YOU.
SHE MUST PAY.
WOOSH


SPLUNK
MASTER HOUGEN...
I GIVE THANKS FOR WHAT I AM ABOUT TO CONSUME.
BA-DUM
BA-DUM
UNGHHHH...
NOW...
LET'S PUT AN END TO ALL OF THIS.

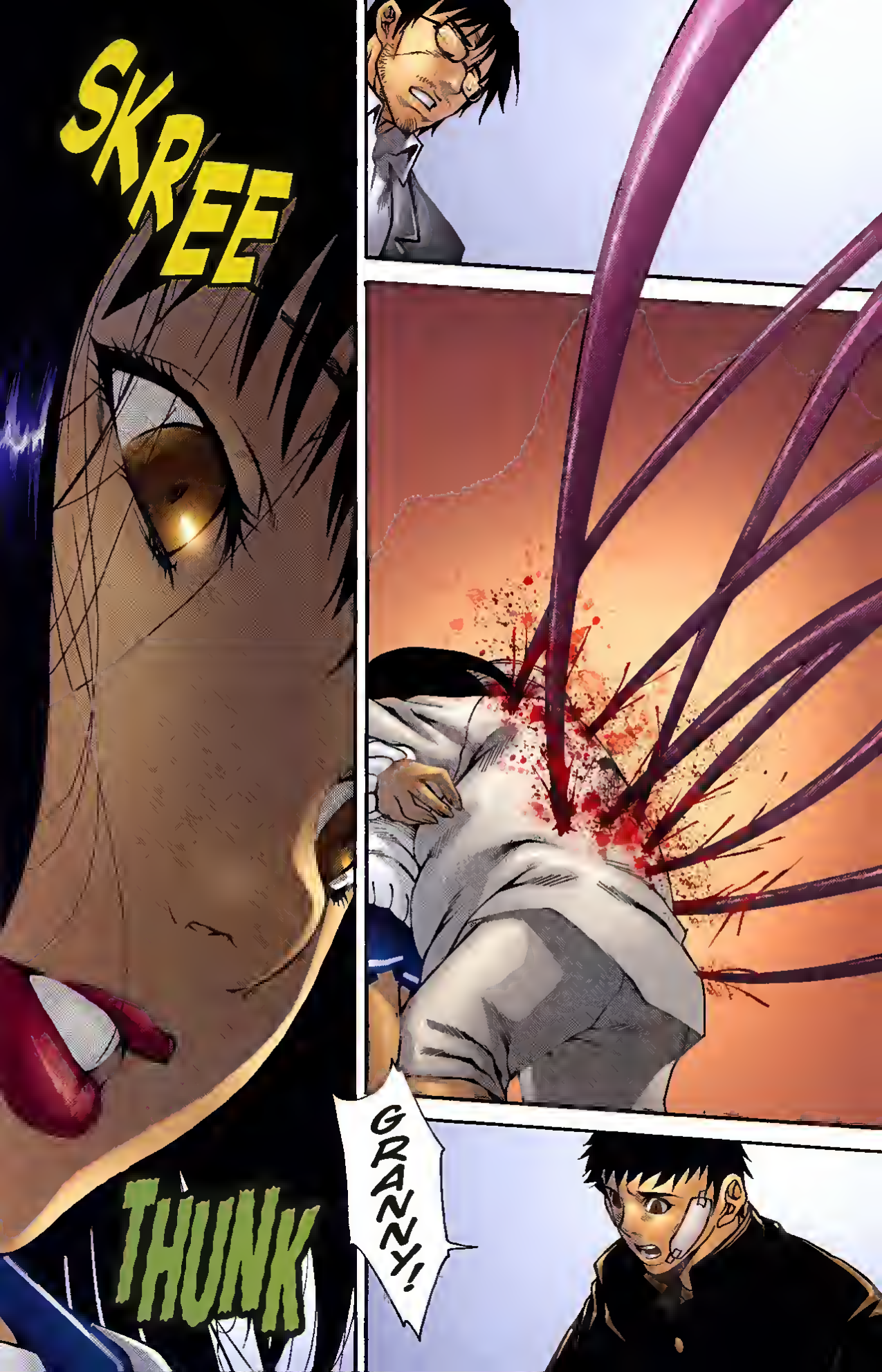

CHOMP
SLURP

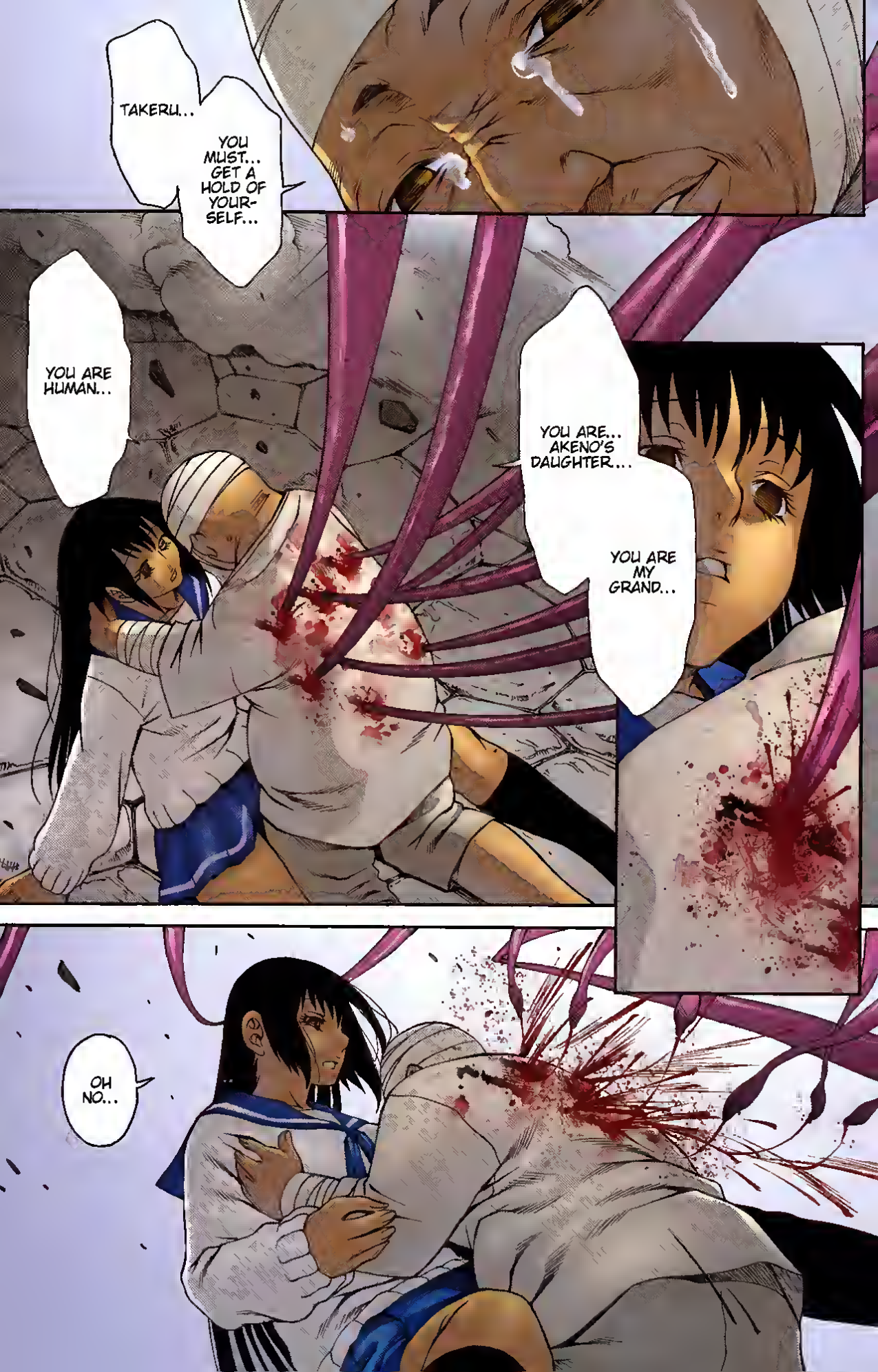

T-TAKERU!
TAKE GRANNY AND RUN!

GET UP, TAKERU!
TAKERU!
WHAT'S WRONG ?!
GRIP
GO!
THUK
THUK
THUK
CLANG

DAD, LISTEN TO ME!
YOU NEED TO GET THEM OUT OF HERE, NOW!
RIGHT!
YOUR HAND...
HOW UNUSUAL...
GRIPPPP
SISTER SENSHULI-NI! TAKERU-CHAN!
WE MUST GO...
HURRY!
UHNGG...
OH!

TAKERU!

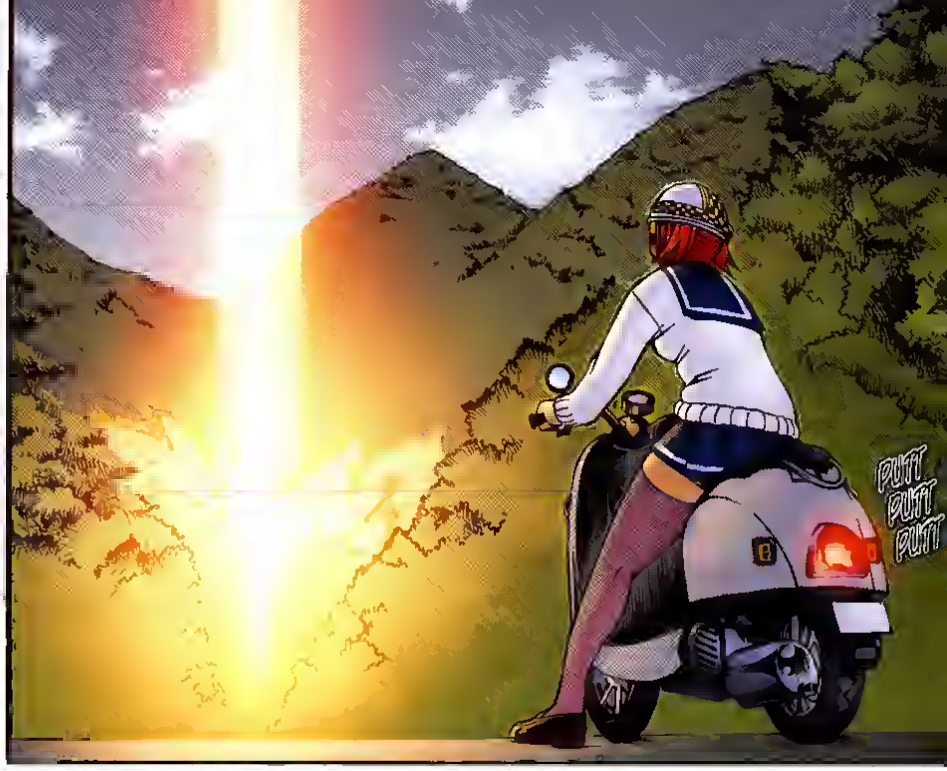

SKREE
THUNK
GRANNY!

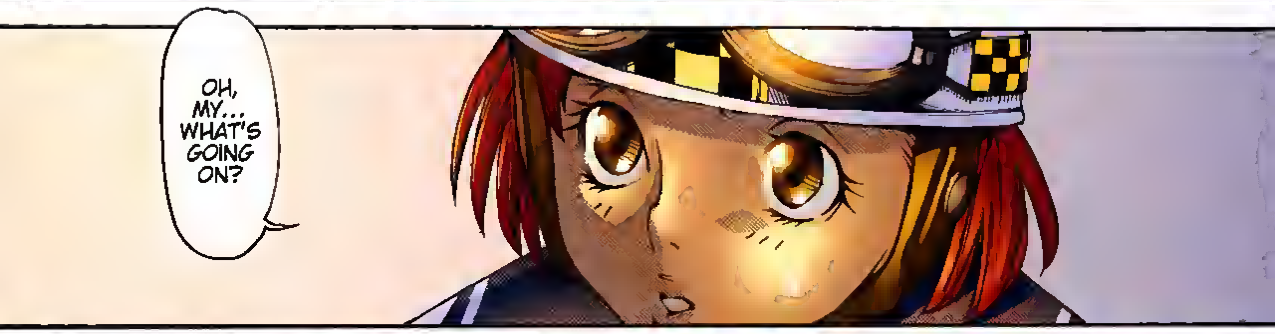

TAKERU...
YOU MUST... GET A HOLD OF YOUR-SELF...
YOU ARE HUMAN...
YOU ARE... AKENO'S DAUGHTER...
YOU ARE MY GRAND...
OH NO...

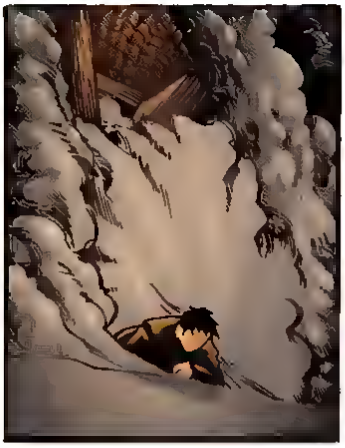
MY, MY...
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY OF LOVE.
SLUMP
GRAND...
...MA?!
AAAAAAAAHHHHH!
WHIRRRRRRRRR

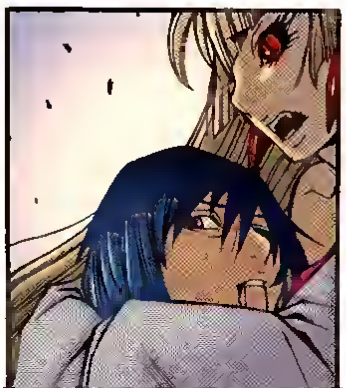
WOOOOOSH
TAKERU?!
KA-BOOM

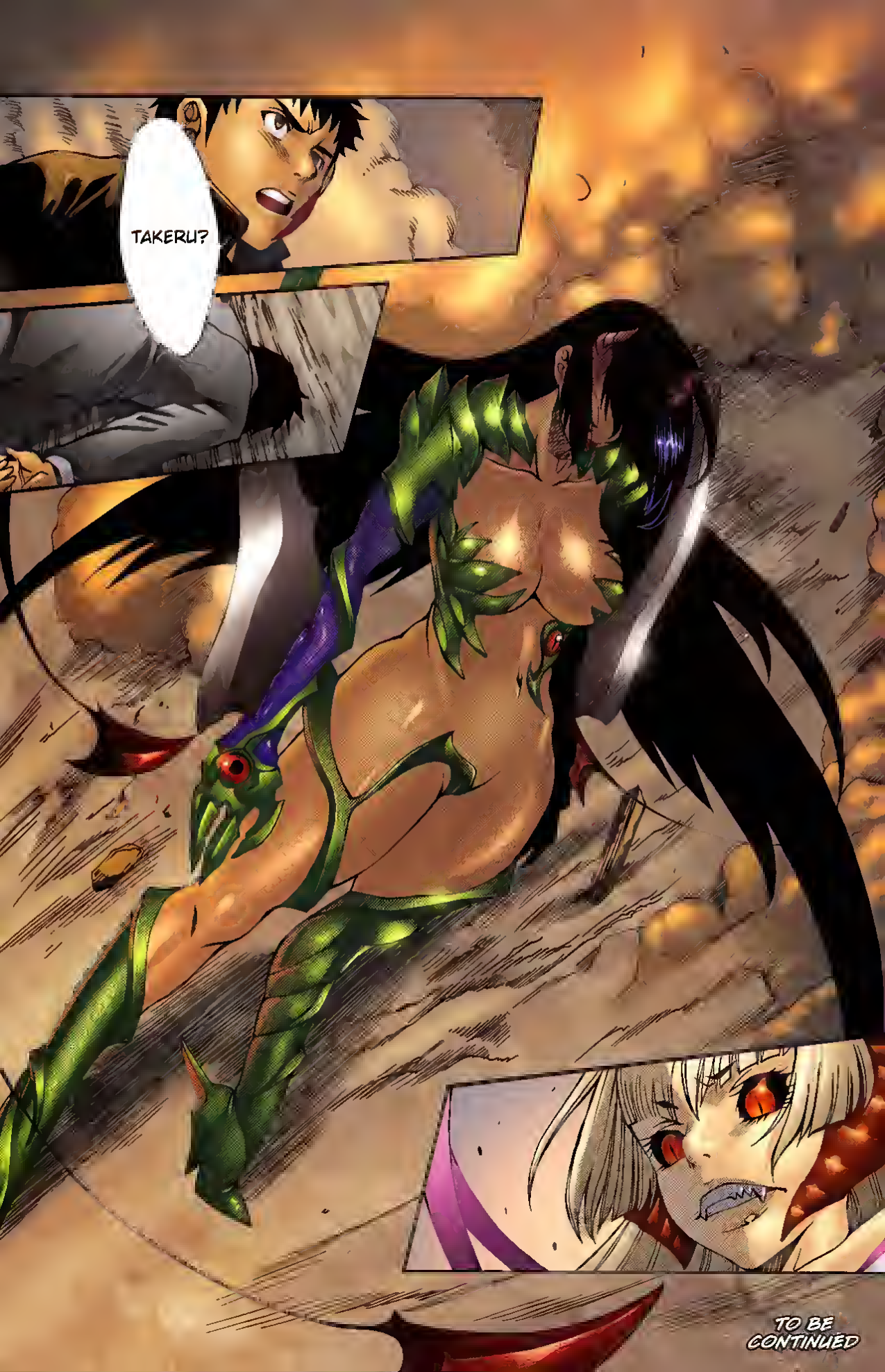
SKREEEE


PUFF
PUFF
PUFF


OH, MY... WHAT'S GOING ON?






TAKERU?
TO BE CONTINUED

a glorious DECKARD scan
sworn to preserve...
DCP!